N. J. DIVISION
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
5 WASHINGTON ST. - PO BOX 630
NEWARK, NJ 07101
3
NEW JERSEY DIVISION C
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Plainfield, N.J.
07060
Permit #119

CITY NEWS

Vol. 15, No. 19
Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983
February 11-February 17, 1998
50 cents

INSIDE THIS WEEK

National page A3
Pilgrimage to Memphis in April will honor Dr. King

Heartbeat page B1
Is soul food good for you?

ARTZ page B4
Malletman hits *Maxine's* in Trenton for Valentine's Day

NEWS BRIEFS

MULCHAY WELCOMES CHALLENGE AS RUTGERS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

NEWARK—Bob Mulchay reached an agreement with Rutgers University on a multi-year contract, and is now the new Athletic Director of Rutgers University.

Mulchay's most recent position was CEO and president of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, a position he has held for 19 years. Regarding his new job, Mulchay said, "I thought that was my kind of challenge. I've always had a great interest in college athletics and the challenge at Rutgers is tremendous."

BOXER MIKE TYSON TAKES CHARGE OF HIS OWN FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LAS VEGAS—Suspended boxer Mike Tyson is organizing his own management company after a violent confrontation with promoter Don King over the condition of his finances.

Although he has earned almost $112 million in boxing purses since his release from prison three years ago, reports are that his liquid assets could be as little as $150,000. Elias Ghanem, chairman of the Nevada State Athletic Commission said, "It would be hard for Tyson to sign with someone else without Don King releasing him."

NEW JERSEY TRANSIT FARES HOLD THE LINE FOR THE EIGHTH YEAR

TRENTON—Bus and train rides on New Jersey Transit will cost no more in 1998. This makes eight years since there has been an increase in transportation fees.

Activist have credited level fares with helping boost ridership on NJ Transit, with an estimated 332,000 commuters and riders making use of the facilities each working day. Governor Whitman has proposed the state allocate $194 million toward the Transit's operating budget which starts July 1, an increase of $29 million over the current operating year.

AIDS-RELATED DEATHS TAKE A DRAMATIC DROP IN LATE 1997

CHICAGO—Although the end of the epidemic and the eradication of the disease is a long way off, there has been a substantial decline in the number of AIDS deaths over the first half of 1997.

"Treatment is having a marked, dramatic impact on AIDS mortality," said Dr. Patricia Fleming, of the Center for Disease Research. Recent data show that both men and women, and people of all races are benefiting from recent breakthroughs in AIDS research, accounting for a 44 percent decrease in deaths.

YOUNG PEOPLE GATHER TO HAVE A SAY IN THEIR OWN MARCH

EAST ORANGE—Activities in relation to Black History month included the recent planning meeting for the 1998 Million Youth March.

Over 100 students from across the state came together in anticipation of the September 19 event that will be held in New York. Local march coordinator Tafia Abdallah said, "We would like to get a million youths from New Jersey alone." Continuing on the purpose of the march, she said, "We are trying to build black alliances."

NAACP targets racial practices of telecommunications industry

By Olive Vassell
NNPA News Director

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The racial practices of the telecommunications industry will be examined under the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (NAACP), Economic Reciprocity Initiative, President Kweisi Mfume announced last week.

"Technology is an area of commerce and trade that will be pivotal to any effort toward economic empowerment of racial minorities, for those...reasons we are announcing our economic reciprocity project into the telecommunications industry," said Mfume, who was joined by representatives of more than 80 African-American organizations at a press conference.

"Telecommunications is the sixth largest industry in the United States today. This industry represents $150-300 trillion. Telephones, wireless service, cable and the Internet posted $800 billion in revenue last year and is expected to increase more dramatically in the next century."

Mfume said the organization's review will first examine the telephone and wireless market, where minority spending is reported to be $10 billion annually—12 percent more than white households. The industry will be rated on how many people of color it does business with, employs and promotes.

In an update on the NAACP's hotel initiative, Mfume reported that "there has been positive movement within the lodging industry within the last 12 months, since the organization announced its grading system. Among the improvements cited were:

•The launching of minority franchise recruitment programs by companies like Cendant Corporation (formerly HFS).

• The hiring of several African-American marketing agencies by hotels like the Marriott, Hyatt and Omni.

•The creation of a multi-cultural food service and hospital alliance to promote diversity in the industry by a consortium of companies.

•The promotion of African Americans to officer level positions and in one instance, at the Doubletree, to the board of directors.

•Current transactions for African Americans to own and operate hotels.

Despite improvements, Mfume cautioned, however, that "while they are good and we welcome them, this is still the beginning and not an end." Only an "ongoing and thorough review will yield credible results," he said.

Meanwhile, results of a survey of the hotel industry, as well as an update of the NAACP's hotel consumer choice guide, will be published in July during the organization's annual convention in Atlanta, GA. Mfume said. A long-term focus on the industry will be aided by the recent establishment of a lodging industry advisory council, he added.

Ultimately, the organization hopes to encourage, "a disciplined consumer appetite that in turn will affect spending choices being made daily on every product and service we consume," he said.

"Consumer education and discipline translates into the ability to leverage economic empowerment and we intend to move forward steadfastly for however long it takes to effect real and dramatic change in the hiring, promotional and procurement practices in corporate America."

How four little girls changed America

The story behind Spike Lee's latest documentary

By Jennifer Lynch

Because of the color of their skin, four little girls, known by those who love them as Carol, Addie Mae, Cynthia and Denise, were brutally murdered in the basement of a Baptist church in Birmingham, Alabama, on September 15, 1963. Now, 35 years later, Spike Lee has resurrected those little girls in a movie for HBO called "4 Little Girls."

The tragedy occurred during the heart of the civil rights movement, when African Americans were sick of being pushed to the back of buses, restricted from certain areas because of the color of their skin,and the last people hired for a job, and the first to be fired.

A few years earlier, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus, sparking a bus boycott. Over 50,000 African American students rebelled against the "whites only" signs at stores by "sitting in" seats that were off-limits. Police beat students out of their seats, and even children marching down a street were sprayed with hoses. "It was like being whipped," says Carol McKinstry, a friend of the girls who died. "They were literally washing children down the street," says Shirley Wesley King (Cynthia's sister). And if protesters weren't hurt by the police or the government, then they were tortured by the KKK and other white supremacist organizations.

The four little girls who died in the Birmingham bombing were not protesting, and they were not "sitting-in." They were in a bathroom getting ready to give a service on "Youth Day" at their church. On that fatal day in September of 1963, Carol McKinstry, who was fourteen at the time, recalls having just left Addie, Cynthia, Denise and Carol in the basement and going up stairs. She heard the phone ring and answered it. "Three minutes," the voice on the line said, and then, the connection was broken. She was confused and didn't understand what the caller had meant until three minutes had passed and a bomb in the basement of the church killed her friends; Addie Mae Collins, 14, Cynthia Wesley, 14, Carole Rosamond Robertson, 14, and Denise McNair, 11.

The bomb left everyone screaming and looking frantically for their children, sisters, brothers, wives, husbands, and friends. Janie Gaines had run down the stairs to find her sister Sarah who lost one of her eyes in the bombing, and her other sister, Addie Mae, who was later found dead. One of the girls' fathers sat amidst the rubble with the shoe of his daughter in his hand. Carol McNair, mother of Denise, identified her daughter at a local morgue. When she arrived, she saw that her child had a brick imbedded in her head.

Walter Cronkite may have said it best in "4 Little Girls." "At that moment the bomb went off and those four little girls were blasted and buried in the debris of the church," says Chronkite. "America understood the real nature of the hate that was preventing integration, particularly in the south, but also through America. This was the awakening."

Despite the awakening, it took over 14 years to arrest and convict Robert "Dynamite Bob" Chambliss, the man who murdered those four little girls. The case was won with the help of "Dynamite Bob's" niece who said she saw the dynamite in his house before the bombing, and heard him refer to what he was about to do. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

It is often funny how history tends to repeat itself. Since 1994, over 22 churches in the South have been burned. Many feel that these church burning are racially-motivated. "The message has to be clear," says noted-African-American actor Ossie Davis. "You can burn them down, but not faster than we can build them up again." Because of the tragic death of these four little girls the government has forcefully investigated the most recent church bombings. Today, several watch-dog organizations, including the NAACP, the SCLC and government agencies, including the FBI are making sure that history does not repeat itself.

Ron Dellums retires after 27 years in Congress

By Andre Worthy

WASHINGTON— Rep. Ron Dellums, a California Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives, retired on February 6 after 27 years in Congress. Only ten other members of the 435-seat House have been in office longer.

Congressman Dellums

In 1971, his freshman year in the House, the former Marine and Berkeley, CA social worker led what would become a 15-year effort to end U.S. support of South Africa's apartheid government.

In 1986, despite President Reagan's objections, Congress overwhelmingly passed Dellum's bill for an economic boycott. Four years later, Nelson Mandela was free. As a self-described peacenik who first ran for Congress by campaigning against the Vietnam War, Dellum's mission was to reduce military spending and reverse the nuclear arms race.

Over the years, Dellums became such a respected expert on defense issues that in 1993 he was selected chairman of what was then called the House Armed Services Committee. He held the post until a Republican majority took control of Congress in 1995.

A product of the progressive movement of the 1960s, Dellums was an outspoken critic of the establishment.

Long before the Watergate breakin scandal, he called for the impeachment of President Richard Nixon.

On the eve of the Persian Gulf War, as U.S. troops prepared for Operation Desert Storm, Dellums filed a lawsuit against President George Bush, challenging Bush's claim that he did not need authorization from Congress to go to war against Iraq.

Dellums concluded his Congressional career a full year before his term expires. California Gov. Pete Wilson will set a date for an election to replace him. Last November, at the unveiling of his congressional portrait, Dellums looked back on his freshman year in Congress: "I walked in here with a big Afro and bell bottoms, ready to kick the door down. I came here thinking like a sprinter," said the 62-year-old veteran lawmaker. "And then I learned this was a marathon."

Governor releases $30 million to promote home ownership

TRENTON—The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA) will make available $30 million at below market rates for first time and urban home buyer mortgages. This is the third mortgage money release by HMFA since Gov. Christie Whitman's announcement in June 1997 allocating a total of $200 million to promote home ownership for more than 2,100 low- and moderate-income families statewide. Home buyers have already reserved $110 million from the first two issues.

HMFA offers a wide selection of programs for first-time home buyers, buyers who have not owned a home in the last three years and trade-up buyers in targeted cities throughout New Jersey. These programs are available through the more than 55 HMFA-approved lenders with offices statewide. Proceeds from the sale of housing revenue bonds allow HMFA to find mortgages at below-market interest rates.

First time home buyer mortgages will be available at rates as low as six percent with three points, or seven percent with zero points. Buyers with qualified income levels may purchase newly constructed or existing single family homes, including condominiums, and one- or two-family units.

The "Too Good But It's True" program makes mortgages available at five percent with zero points for qualified buyers in neighborhoods presently designated for assistance by the governor's Urban Coordinating Council (UCC) throughout Asbury Park, Camden, Dover, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Long Branch, New Brunswick, Newark, Trenton and Vineland.

HMFA mortgages are available through participating banks and mortgage lenders, who will determine the amount of mortgage buyers can qualify for, and help select the appropriate mortgage program.

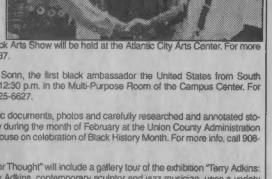
FMFA creates and implements programs to advance the rehabilitation, construction and financing of affordable housing for the state. HMFA secures program funding and operating expenses through the sale of taxable and non-taxable bonds to private-sector investors, and is not dependent upon funding from the state treasury.

For information on HMFA consumer mortgage programs, call 1-800-NJ-HOUSE.

Black History Month Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

HISTORY CHANNEL—"For Us, The Living," the story of Medgar Evers, whose fight for civil rights would cost him his life, and the struggle to bring his killer to justice, airs at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.


AHN—The African Heritage Movie Network broadcasts the smash hit movies, "Mississippi Masala" (in photo) at 12:35 a.m. For more info, call 212-227-0494.

ATLANTIC CITY—The 29th Annual Black Arts Show will be held at the Atlantic City Arts Center. For more info, call 609-347-5837.

CAMDEN—Franklin Sonn, the first black ambassador the United States from South Africa, will speak at 12:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Campus Center. For more info, call 609-225-6627.

ELIZABETH—Historic documents, photos and carefully researched and annotated stories will be on display during the month of February at the Union County Administration Building and Court House on celebration of Black History Month. For more info, call 908-527-4744.

TRENTON—"Food for Thought" will include a gallery tour of the exhibition "Terry Adkins: Distant Mirrors." Terry Adkins, contemporary sculptor and jazz musician, uses a variety of found materials and objects to create works with an African-American presence. Admission is free. For more info, call 609-292-6464.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

UPPER MONTCLAIR—The director of the Harlem Textile Works will speak at Montclair State University as part of the Art Forum Lecture Series. This lecture will be held in Calcia Hall's Fine Arts Auditorium, room 135 from 3 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. and are free and open to the public. For more info, call 973-655-7294 or 973-655-7295.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The artistic genius of Willie Torbert, a self-taught artist from New York, will display a collection of his works at the NJ Law Center in New Brunswick. Minorities in the Profession Section will also sponsor an essay contest for NJ high school students. All entries must be received by Feb. 12. The winners of the essay contest will be recognized at an awards ceremony reception on Feb. 19. For more info, call 732-937-7525.

MAYS LANDING—Art in Celebration of Black History Month, showcasing paintings and other artwork will be held at Atlantic Community College. For more info, call 609-343-5040.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

EDISON—"The Drum: African Rhythms to Busta Rhymes—Hold On To What You Got" will be held starting at noon in Room 319 at the College Center in Middlesex County College. For more info, call 732-906-2566.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

PLAINFIELD—Camille Yarbrough distinguished writer, teacher, actress and community activist will lead the list of guest authors and poets who will be present at the Unity First Annual Book Fair scheduled at the BUF Health and Human Services Complex at noon. For more info, call 908-561-0123.

PLAINFIELD—"Blood Brothers," the Broadway and London smash hit musical by Willy Russel will be presented by the Open Space Theatre Company through the 14th at the Open Space Theatre company at 8 p.m. For more info, call 908-226-0082.

NEWARK—A Celebration: African American Storytelling in Art and Music will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. in The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

continued on page B3

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

SOUTH PLAINFIELD—The Carrier Center for Counseling and Outpatient Services announces a new Compulsive Gambling Group on Tuesdays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at The Carrier Center of Counseling. For more info, call 908-281-1518.

MAHWAH—Hudson River and West: Views and Visions, an exhibit of works by a trio of New York artists, will open at Ramapo College of NJ and continue through March 13 in the college gallery. For more info, call 201-529-7362.

JERSEY CITY—Commercial design by Harvey Hirsch will be displayed at The Courtney Gallery from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3441.

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College's women's basketball team will play William Paterson at 8 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3426.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

JERSEY CITY—Teresa Weatherspoon of the New York Liberty of the WNBA will participate in a Jersey City State College "National Women's Sports Day" program from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3189.

NEW YORK—The Whitney Museum presents the first full-scale overview of the work of California-based video artist, Bill Viola through May 10. For more info, call 212-570-7722.

SOMERSET—A professional development course, "Effective Public Speaking," is being offered on Wednesday through February 25th from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Summit Bank Building. For more info, call 908-218-8871.

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College's men volleyball team plays New Paltz at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3426.

RARITAN—Recent paintings and drawings by John Atura will be displayed at Raritan Valley Community College from noon to 3 p.m. For more info, call 908-218-8876.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

WESTFIELD—Union County youth from grades 5 through 7 are invited to join the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County 4-H Horse Club. The first meeting will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-654-9854.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MILLBURN—CoreStates Bank will host a Paper Mill Playhouse production of "The Mask of Moriarty" to benefit Family and Children's Services. For additional info call 908-352-7474.

WASHINGTON—Communities In School will have a National Conference, "Seeking Solutions Through Partnerships for Youth" through the 17th. For more info, call 703-519-8999.

NEWARK—Metropolitan Opera Star, Jerome Hines, will give a seminar on "Preserving The Mature Voice" in the Opera Music Theatre International's Leroy Neiman Recital Hall 1 p.m. For more info, call 973-275-0077.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NEW YORK—Tickets are on sale now for New York City's only appearance of the 1998 Harlem Globetrotters "What Sports Should Be" World Tour. They will suit up for an all-star performance at Madison Square Garden at 1p.m. For more info, call 212-465-6741.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

NEW BRUNSWICK—A free public seminar on estate and federal income tax will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the NJ Law Center. For more info, call 1-800-FREE-LAW.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

MAHWAH—Hudson River and West: Views and Visions, an exhibit of works by a trio of New York artists, will open at Ramapo College of NJ and continue through March 13 in the college gallery. An artists' reception and talk will begin at 5 p.m.; the artists will discuss their work at 6 p.m. For more info, call 201-529-7362.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

SOMERSET—The NJ Flower & Patio show has announced its fourth-annual Pressed Flower Picture Competition to be held at the Garden State Exhibit Center through February 22. To obtain a complete list of contest rules and an entry blank call 732-919-7660.

NEWARK—Art adventures for 3 to 5 year olds experimenting with a wide variety of art materials in this studio workshop from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. through April 16 at the Junior Museum within The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6606.

UNION—Workshop: "Hanging and Promoting an Art Show" for visual artists will be held at 9:30 a.m. at Kean University, Vaughn-Eames Building. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

WESTFIELD—The 4-H Reptile Club will have it's first meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the 4-H office. For more info, call 908-654-9854.

Josetta Clark in February 28 forum

NEW YORK—Josetta Clark will be a featured speaker during the provocative forum, "Powerful Women in Sports and Business." This will be the first time an NBA speaker series has featured and targeted women.

This event will take place on Thursday, February 26 at the Continental Airlines Arena on center court prior to the Nets vs. Sacramento Kings game in addition to kicking off Women's History Month in March, the event also will raise money for the Women's Sports Foundation with $5 from every ticket sold to the program going to the Foundation. The Women's Sports Foundation is a National not-for-profit organization dedicated to increasing opportunities for girls and women in sports and fitness through advocacy, recognition and grants. The event is free with a Nets game ticket. Ticket prices are $60, $50, $30 and $25.

Clark, who has been ranked in the national top ten for the 800 meters over the past 17 years, represented the U.S. at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea, the 1992 Games in Barcelona, Spain, and the 1966 Games in Atlanta. A graduate of the University of Tennessee, she is also the daughter of Joe Clark, the Paterson principal who inspired the movie "Lean on Me."

Congratulations to Prosecutor Hurt

NEWARK— Essex County Prosecutor Patricia Hurt greets and is congratulated by a swarm of well-wishers at her swearing in ceremony recently.
Photo By Glen Friesón

Hardy named Kean Univ. acting chief

Cyrus D. Hardy

Prior to this recent appointment, Cyrus D. Hardy served as a lieutenant, a post he has held since 1989. He began his career at Kean in 1972 as a security officer and then as a patrolman. Since that time, he has risen through the ranks becoming a detective in 1983, a sergeant in 1986 and three years later, a lieutenant.

As acting chief, Hardy will oversee a department consisting of 26 sworn police officers and 10 support personnel that includes security officers and dispatchers. He will also be responsible for overseeing the completion of the police department's accreditation process that began in 1996. Throughout his law enforcement career, Hardy has been recognized for his outstanding contributions and service as a Kean police officer and has received several commendations.

Fitzpatrick is honored for service

MANALAPAN—The Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders held a luncheon recently to honor 97 county employees who had attained a milestone in their service to the public. Among those honored was Patricia Fitzpatrick, of Manalapan Township, a 25-year employee with the County Superintendent of Elections. Ms. Fitzpatrick received her service pin from Freeholder Thomas Powers, at left, Deputy Director of the Board.

Feb 17, 1919. The streets of Harlem light up with pride as the Hellfighting 369th – the Black heroes of World War I – march up Fifth Avenue, home at last. From the streets and rooftops, thousands cheer as mothers, wives and sweethearts rush to embrace their men.

These and other stories can be yours with a free *Glory Days* Booklet.

Only at participating McDonald's®
While supplies last.

did somebody say M?

©1998 McDonald's Corporation

Another great reason to call on The Best!

Great checking accounts, competitive savings rates and low loan rates, locations throughout the Garden State, and unparalleled service; Investors Savings Bank has it all. And now we've added yet another reason for you to become a customer of one of the safest, strongest banks in New Jersey.

The Best Telephone Information System.

With this remarkable service, you'll have an incredible convenience at your fingertips. Simply by picking up a TouchTone™ phone and calling 1-888-444-4466, you'll get up-to-date financial details on your Investors Savings' passbook, checking, CD, IRA, and loan accounts; as well as current rates, office locations and hours.

And it's all completely free, including the phone call.

For complete details on this exciting service — and all our great services — stop by or call the nearest office of Investors Savings Bank.

Now more than ever, we're right on the button.

Invest with the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 249 Millburn Avenue, Millburn • 1-800-252-8119

CHATHAM: 169 Main Street*
CLARK: 56 Westfield Avenue* Bradlees Shopping Center*
COLTS NECK: Highway 34, P.O. Box 127
DEAL: 88 Norwood Avenue, P.O. Box 227
EAST ORANGE: 27 Prospect Street
EDISON: 1855-65 Oak Tree Road*
FREEHOLD: Highway 9 and Adelphia Road*
HILLSIDE: 1139 Liberty Avenue*
IRVINGTON: 34 Union Avenue; 1331 Springfield Avenue; 1065 Stuyvesant Avenue
LIVINGSTON: 493 South Livingston Avenue*; 371 East Northfield Road*
LONG BRANCH: 168 Broadway
MADISON: 16 Waverly Place*
MILLBURN: 249 Millburn Avenue*
HAVESINK: Highway 36 and Valley Drive*
PLAINFIELD: 130 Watchung Avenue*
SCOTCH PLAINS: 437 Park Avenue*
SPRINGFIELD: 173 Mountain Avenue; Mountain and Morris Avenues*
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: Highway 71 and Warren Avenue
TOMS RIVER: 974 Fischer Blvd., Bay Plaza* (Shop Rite Center)
UNION: 977-979 Stuyvesant Avenue; Relax Shopping Center, Route 22*

*Investors' 24-Hour ATM Location

Deposits FDIC insured to $100,000

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Class action lawsuit seeks eligible black farmers

WASHINGTON—Black farmers that farmed between 1983 and 1997 may be eligible to receive money and loan forgiveness and other benefits from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a result of the lawsuit Pigford v. Glickman, the Black Farmers' Class Action Lawsuit.

Last August, Black farmers filed the $2 billion discrimination lawsuit against the USDA, contending that they have been the victims of racial discrimination after repeatedly being denied loans and other management and technical services by USDA. It also asserted that from 1983 to 1997, the USDA, failed to investigate hundreds of discrimination complaints filed by Black farmers.

According to the farmers, discrimination took the form of "stretching the review process out many years—or conducting vacuous or ghost investigations - or failing to take action." These practices led to foreclosures, bankruptcies and other serious economic problems for Black farmers, they said. For more information call 800-448-FARM or write to: Pires & Fraas, Lead Counsel, Pigford v. Glickman, 1818 N Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Minorities may be key to reducing blood shortages

WASHINGTON—African Americans and Hispanic Americans are donating blood more often than they did in the beginning of the decade, according to two blood donation surveys. Accelerating this trend can help prevent seasonal blood shortages, said Byron Buhner, president of American's Blood Centers (ABC), the nation's largest network of independent, non-profit community blood centers.

"While this news is encouraging, our members are always looking for ways to increase minority participation in their community blood donor programs, especially during the holidays when many blood centers across the country experience shortages," Buhner said. A November 1996 Louis Harris & Associates survey commissioned by American's Blood Centers showed that 37 percent of African Americans and Hispanic Americans had donated blood in their lifetime.

Separately, a survey conducted by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute in 1993 showed that 33 percent of African Americans had donated blood at least once, while 28 percent of Hispanic Americans have donated blood. African Americans and Hispanic Americans are the United States' two largest and fastest growing minorities, according to the 1990 U.S. Census. With populations in excess of 30 million and 22 million respectively.

African American healthy heart month

LOS ANGELES—This February as celebrations focus on African-American contributions to the history of the U.S., health advocates are stressing the need to focus on a healthy body. They point out that Black Americans continue to suffer from heart disease at rates significantly higher than other ethnic groups. Accordingly, WATTS Health Systems, the largest community-based health care system of its kind in the nation serving over 200,000 residents of greater Los Angeles, has designated February African-American Healthy Heart Month.

They suggest that African Americans should examine their heart's health and their risk for cardiovascular disease. The death rate from cardiovascular disease among Black men is 47.4 percent and 69.1 percent higher among Black women. African-American men are nearly 94 percent more likely and African-American women are 77 percent more likely to die from stroke. Death from high blood pressure is 36.1 percent higher for Black men and 37 percent higher for Black women.

TARA SINGH
A GIFT For All Mankind
LEARNING THE FIRST TEN LESSONS OF
A Course In Miracles

NAACP reports progress on hotel review, new focus on telecom

WASHINGTON—The NAACP kicked off year two of its Economic Reciprocity Initiative in Washington, D.C. NAACP President Kweisi Mfume reported on the progress of the initiative's first target — the hotel and lodging industry—and announced the beginning of a review of telecommunications industry.

"Technology is an industry that is pivotal to the economic empowerment of the African-American community," said Mfume, who was flanked by representatives of other African-American organizations and publications that support the NAACP initiative.

The Economic Reciprocity Initiative was launched in February of 1997 and in June, the first NAACP Consumer Choice Guide was released which contained comprehensive information about the top hotel chains and their records on community investment. Since then' over 25,000 guides and report cards on the lodging industry have been distributed nationwide.

"Members of our respective organizations have embraced the principles of economic reciprocity and are making informed consumer choices about where they spend their hotel dollars," Mfume said. "These organizations, both nationally and locally, are leveraging their collective consumer strength when negotiating contracts for meetings, conferences and other events."

Mfume reported positive movement in several key areas of the hotel initiative:

• Some hotel chains have launched aggressive minority franchise recruitment initiatives.

• Several hotel chains have secured the services of African-American marketing agencies to advise executives on developing strategies targeting the minority consumer market.

• African-Americans have been promoted to officer level positions within their companies.

• At least one additional African-American has been added to a hotel chain's board of directors.

• Transactions are underway for African-Americans to own and operate hotels.

• A consortium of companies have created the Multi-Cultural Food service and Hospitality Alliance to promote diversity within that industry.

• In accordance with the project guidelines, a second round of surveying and data collection is underway to update consumers on the current performance of the various hotel chains. The results of that survey will be published in June of 1998.

"But we are not stopping with the hotel initiative," said Mfume. "Corporate America must know by now that African American organizations are serious about achieving economic parity."

President Mfume said the NAACP will now begin a consumer-focused analysis of the telecommunications industry. "Our review of the industry will focus on employment, minority business procurement, deployment and infrastructure development," said Mfume. This effort will begin surveying and rating the telephone and wireless segment, where minority spending is reported to be at $10 billion annually—12 percent more than white households.

"We all know that technology is a busding industry," said Mfume. Telecommunications overall is the sixth largest industry in the United States today and growing rapidly. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration reports that more Americans build computers than cars, make more semiconductors than construction machinery and more work in data processing than petroleum refining. "Eventually, the project will encompass the entire telecommunications industry," Mfume added.

The Economic Reciprocity objective is to establish a sustained consumer movement. The mission is to educate consumers. The goal is to affect consumer choices every day, every time dollars are spent on every product and service consumed.

Part I

Uprising in Islamic World

By Askia Muhammad

MECCA—While some may jest in Islamic capitals that President Bill Clinton could solve his problems by declaring that he's a Muslim, because Muslim are permitted as many as four wives in some countries. Muslim women are not laughing. "How many wives does your husband have?" is a common question often asked of Muslim women from America by other Muslim women when they travel in predominantly Islamic countries.

Muslim men dismiss the possibility of dissension in the ranks of their women, as being the work of "outside agitators" who want to disturb the perfectly peaceful status quo by "rabble rousing" among the otherwise happy and content female population. But the truth of the matter is that a major uprising is brewing among otherwise docile-appearing Muslim women, over their rights and their treatment in a male-dominated world.

The first skirmish in this pending revolution, I saw in Uganda recently, traveling with the Honorable Louis Farrakhan, on his World Friendship Tour III when we visited that country. Muslim men are in an uproar over a proposed law that would limit them to only two wives; would require the permission of the first wife before a man could take a second wife; and would require the permission of a special civil panel before a man could marry another women.

In the Holy Quran there is a passage which permits polygamy under certain circumstances. It does not permit it unconditionally! "...Marry such women as seem good to you, two or three, or four," the Ayat, or verse, reads (4:3). "But if you fear that you will not do justice, then marry only one...This is more proper that you may not do injustice."

There is a proverb which can shed some light on another aspect, an even more troubling aspect of this situation: "No man is a prince to his valet." This means that to the person who picks up the dirty laundry after the royal person and who sees the common side of the person most people hold in awe—but from a distance—no such person can be revered.

Sadly, in many Muslim cultures, particularly in Africa, this very notion of the "valet" is being turned into a breeding ground for an uprising within the Muslim family. All too often in some countries, not only are wives consigned to be the hand-servants of the men, which is a lowly enough status by itself, but sometimes such wives are virtually "pimped" as "workhorses" while the men live lives of ease!

It is absolutely contrary to everything that is truly Islamic for a man to live with two or three or four wives, all in the same household, having the women work while the man sits around the mosque all day, but is happening just the same, and it must end!

"Men are the maintainers of women..." says the Holy Quan (4:34), and not the other way around. In fact it says plainly, just the opposite (4:32): "...For men is the benefit of what they earn. And for women is the benefit of what they earn..."

There is much more to be said on this subject in part two. For now let me suggest that the Muslim world may not convulse in a woman's revolution just now, certainly not before Islam is able to prevail against the forces of evil in the world which would gleefully suppress Muslim men and women together, without distinction.

The far more troubling inequalities in the Muslim world than the number of wives men are permitted are fundamental to a progressive society as a whole: the denial of equal access to the mosque itself to even pray in too many countries; the denial to women of education—even religious education; and the denial of opportunities to women, especially educated women, to contribute to the society and to advance as a result of such contributions.

April pilgrimage to Memphis honors Dr. King

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Miles of armored carriers rumbled through the streets of downtown Memphis, TN., bearing nearly 5,000 National Guardsmen equipped with 50-caliber machine guns. A sight hardly fit for a King.

It was April 4, 1968, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was determined to lead a peaceful march of 6,000 in support of striking sanitation workers—a walk he would never take. An April 3-5, 1998, "Pilgrimage To Memphis" is scheduled to reflect on King's life, his accomplishments and their effects during the 30 years since his murder on that spring day.

The pilgrimage is being organized by a ministerial committee called the Commemorative Commission Connecting Community (CCCC), led by Rev. Samuel Billy Kyles, King's friend and witness to the assassination. Members include Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. and Rev. Dr. Benjamin Hooks, former NAACP executive director.

On Saturday, April 4, ministerial and civil rights leaders will gather for a candlelight vigil at the Lorraine Motel, the place where the assassin's bullet stopped their 39-year-old pastor, leader and friend. The motel now houses the National Civil Rights Museum.

The pilgrimage is designed to be educational for the generations who have only a textbook perspective of King and the Civil Rights Movement, and it will be a time of remembrance for those who were involved.

There's a whole generation, maybe two, that have only read about Martin," said Kyles, 37-year pastor of Monumental Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn. "There are a lot of people involved in the Civil Rights Movement who are still alive. The pilgrimage will be a time of remembrance of what has come to light and how it has changed our ordinary lives.

Panels and speakers will discuss the nation's progress since 1968. "It was a time when some Southerners thought blacks should have equal rights, but thought 'Not now.' Segregation was ingrained in our society," Kyles said.

A friend of King's since the late 1950s, Kyles stopped at the Lorraine Motel to drive King to his house for dinner on April 4, 1968. "That's something about how God works. God allowed me to be with Martin during his last hour of life on earth. Just talkin' preacher talk," said Kyles.

As they were exiting the motel room, Kyles was a few steps from King when he heard a gunshot. "I turned and saw people ducking and Martin lying on the balcony mortally wounded," Kyles said. "I saw his face, the wound in his neck, it was a nightmare."

Register for the programs by writing to the CCCC at P.O. Box 3050, Memphis, Tenn. 38173-3050, or call 901-527-7277. Registration fees are $30 for adults, $15 for college students, $10 for ages 13-18 and free to children 12 and under.

Holmes is named Acting Census Bureau Director

WASHINGTON—Commerce Secretary William Daley announced that James F. Holmes will be Acting Director of the Census Bureau effective Monday, February 9. Holmes most previous position was as the Director of the Census Bureau's Atlanta regional office.

James Holmes

Holmes began his career with the Census Bureau in 1968 as a Survey Statistician and then Survey Coordinator in the Detroit regional office. Since then he has held managerial positions in the regional offices of Kansas City and Los Angeles, and was Director of the Philadelphia regional office. In his current position as Director of the Atlanta office, Holmes, a graduate of Albany State College, is responsible for all the data collection and dissemination activities of the Census Bureaus for the States of Georgia, Alabama and Florida.

"Jim Holmes brings with him 30 years of experience working in the Census Bureau," said Secretary Daley. "I am very pleased to have a person with hands-on experience to lead the Census Bureau forward as we conduct the planning, rehearsal, and implementation of a more accurate, less costly census."

In addition to managing the regional office, Mr. Holmes was instrumental in developing the Census Bureau's Strategic Planning Committee, which determines the focus of Census Bureau activities beyond the year 2000, and the Technical committee for Census Design for Census 2000.

Get CITY NEWS at newspaper boxes in your town.
For box locations call: 908-754-3400

H.D. Auto Supply
875 South Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07062
Store Hours:
7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. M-F
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sat.
908-668-4568
908-668-4622
Bring Coupon In Receive 10% Discount On Any Item

Club, theater, fashion & hair show hosts, concert, party promoters, book publishers, event planners, fund-raisers.
STOP PRESS
Reach New Jersey's lively entertainment seekers in ARTZ Wednesday.
Call 908-754-3400
special advertising rates

IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH TEXACO SALUTES THE ENERGY OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRIT.
A WORLD OF ENERGY.
©1998, Texaco Inc.

EDITORIAL

Learning from our pioneers

One of the reasons we celebrate Black History month is to take another look at some of the people that made our success and progress as a people possible. When we study the accomplishments of both the famous and lesser known of our ancestors, there is one quality that stands out even above intellect. It is the quality of self-reliance and perseverance these people displayed in the course of lifting up those around them.

Back in the day, these people didn't have safety nets and they didn't do it with smoke and mirrors. They relied on the strength of their hands, the agility of their bodies, and the resourcefulness of their brains. If anyone wonders how people like George Washington Carver, Paul Robeson, Althea Gibson, Adam Clayton Powell, (both Senior and Junior) and even Father Divine or your Uncle Lonnie, did what they did, one of the answers could be the question, "How could they not?" These people had the reasoning power to develop and execute ideas that gives our history a particular color. What was in them had to come out.

Very few of these people made money, but, dollars aside, they became rich people. By developing much from very little, then making their achievements visible and within reach of all around them, they produced what was worth more than dollars. It in turn made them giants and prime examples of what we all can do on our own, with our own resources; and what we can contribute to the progress of the race and civilization in general.

George Washington Carver may be in all the history books, and Uncle Lonnie may only be in your family reunion book, but both of them are shining examples of what Elijah Muhammad so forcefully termed as "doing for self."

Political Analysis:

FIELD ASSIGNMENT

A black response to school funding

By Walter Fields

Superior Court Judge Michael Patrick King has determined that the state must provide an additional $312 million to support full day pre-school for three and four-year-olds, full day kindergarten for five-year-olds, enhanced counseling and summer school for the 28 school districts under the Abbott v. Burke settlement. The judge has also proposed some $3 billion in spending for school renovation and new construction. King's decision will be reviewed by the state Supreme Court this spring, Already, some Republican lawmakers in Trenton are prepared to stand down the high court.

We have been down this road once before. Upon the Supreme Court's ruling in Brown v. Board of Education, southern segregationists used every device conceivable to circumvent the high court's ruling. The vagueness of the court's order to desegregate at "all deliberate speed" allowed governors south of the Mason Dixon line just enough wiggle room to delay the implementation of Brown. Some southern states simply ignored the court's mandate. Other states took more devious routes. Virginia, for example, simply shut its public schools down rather than have black children attend classes with their white contemporaries.

There are of course some dramatic differences in what transpired in the south after Brown and the present day events in New Jersey via Abbott. The most important distinction is that while de jure segregation, was made illegal by Brown, de facto desegregation has become a way of life in our state. The movement of whites out of New Jersey's cities, followed by many middle class blacks, has left urban, public school districts mostly black in hue. Exacerbating this development is the reluctance of many of the remaining middle class households black and white, to sending their children to public schools.

An equally important distinction is that the Supreme Court never envisioned this development when it handed down its historic decision in 1954. To be sure, black migration to northern cities had been in full effect by the time the court ruled. Yet few people saw a future when whites would just simply pick up and leave, to be followed by many blacks. No one foresaw the manner in which public education would be so intricately tied to the country's economic fortunes. The peculiar brand of northern segregation we witness today has no precedence. Lawsuits such as Abbott aim to cut to the core of our own "peculiar institution".

Tragically, there are some similarities between southern reaction to Brown and white resistance in the legislature to Abbott. First and foremost, is the thinly veiled attacks upon the intellectual capacity of black children. Segregationist were more direct. They simply used biological arguments against race mixing. Our fear of race mixing in New Jersey is muted simply because we conveniently slip under the Brown barrier. No one is legally separating black and white children in New Jersey. It is a voluntary condition, albeit the fact that the state accommodates its existence by purposely underfunding urban districts. We can't accuse lawmakers of being racists. Although their actions can certainly be construed as racist.

In New Jersey the "money doesn't matter" argument is nothing more than a coded message that there is no use spending more money on damaged goods. Isn't is ironic that in a capitalist economy where capital is the foundation of success, that argument doesn't spill over into education. We know that more money buys a better car, purchases quality housing and provides access to superior postsecondary education. Yet, some would have us believe that money, along with other resources, won't increase the quality of education for urban children. It is a foolish argument that collapses under its own weight.

The real test here is how people of color respond to this latest attempt to undermine Abbott. Every conceivable excuse will he offered from the State House. Governor Whitman will bemoan the fact that the state can't afford to be so generous. Legislators will point to low test scores in urban districts conveniently having amnesia when the topic of the performance of the state managed districts of Paterson, Jersey City and Newark is brought to the fore. Suburban education advocates and administrators will plead that they have the interest of children in the Abbott district at heart. This benevolence will be maintained so long, as their districts sacrifice little and the reared topic of "regionalization" is not raised. Television pundits, some well intentioned and some not, will pontificate over the difficult fiscal issue facing the state.

While all of this posturing is taking place what will really matter is how black advocates respond. Will the Garden State Bar Association counter the Republicans court maneuvering? Will black and Hispanic legislators face down their white colleagues on the floor of the Assembly and Senate? Will the New Jersey Black Issues Convention go beyond discussing Abbott at its annual fall soiree and actually organize the community for action" Will the state NAACP sacrifice formalities for real advocacy? Is the black church prepared to make this a litmus test much in the way white evangelicals do over abortion?

You may sense a bit of sarcasm and frustration in my outlook. If you do, you are very perceptive. The black community in this state serves as Trenton's doormat And we allow just about anyone to wipe their feet on our backs. This can no longer be a war fought principally by folks whose children do not look like ours. Our children will not judge us by what we say, all that will matter is what we do at this critical how. We cannot walk into the next millennium worse off than we were at the dawn of the 20th century. Judgement Day is here. What are you going to do?

City News
The New Journal of Civilization
144 North Avenue,
Plainfield, N.J. 07060
(908) 754-3400

PUBLISHER
Henry C. Johnson, Ph.D.

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Jan M. Edgenton Johnson

MANAGING EDITOR
Jeremee L. Johnson

ASSISTANT EDITOR
g.r. mattox

LAYOUT
C.J. Johnson

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Henry C. Johnson, Sr.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Kai Niyonu

How to reach us
Editorial: (908) 754-3400
Advertising: (908) 754-3401
Circulation: (908) 754-3402

Fax: (908) 753-1036
E-mail: CityNews97@aol.com

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07060

HEADQUARTERS
144 North Avenue,
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Copyright (c) 1997 City News Publishing

'Amistad': Should America apologize for slavery?"

Dr. Manning Marable

In recent weeks since the release of Steven Spielberg's new film, "Amistad," a major public debate has emerged about the continuing burden of slavery within the radicalized culture of America. Much as the televised depiction of slavery in Alex Haley's "Roots" two decades ago captured the public imagination, "Amistad" has generated new awareness and interest in America's "peculiar institution" of black bondage.

Spielberg's film focuses on an actual historical event, the 1839 slave upraising abroad the Spanish ship Amistad. Abolitionists rallied to defend the legal rights of the imprisoned Africans. After a series of court hearings, the former slaves were freed by the U.S. Supreme Court, and were permitted to return to Africa. In a general way, Spielberg keeps to these central facts, but tells the story in a manner that places white men, not African people, at the heart of the narrative.

Some critics of "Amistad" have attacked the series of historical distortions and fictional characters utilized by Spielberg, such as the black abolitionist character depicted by Morgan Freeman, or the scene where Adams entertains Cinque' in his home, which never happened. To me, such concerns are not significant. Artists and filmmakers should have some literary license to dramatize real events. The larger questions we should be concerned about should focus on the racial politics behind the contemporary discussion about slavery. As Newsweek magazine bluntly put it, "Should America Apologize for Slavery?...Long described as America's original sin, slavery is also our shadow: dogging our steps forward, projecting in black against the sunlight of democratic ideals."

There are so many problems and such deep-seated racism in the Newsweek sentence above, that it is difficult to know where to begin. Maybe the first point to be made is that virtually all people and civilizations have experienced enslavement. Through most history, slaves were not identified by the color of their skin. Most Greeks who lived in ancient Athens, people we today would define as "white", were slaves. Jews, of course, experienced long periods of bondage. The great majority of Europeans who settled this nation before 1800 arrived as indentured servants, forced to work for certain terms of years. These historical facts are important, because the point must be made that slavery was about economic exploitation, not just about color.

The question, "Should America Apologize?", raises additional problems. Any apology involves two elements: the recognition that one person or party has offended a second party, and that there is an attempt to express regret and to make amends. An apology without some compensation to the aggrieved party is an empty gesture, words uttered without meaning.

The thirteenth amendment which outlawed slavery did little to eradicate racism, or the exploitation of African Americans. The Civil Rights Movement a century later gave us access to public accommodations and the right to vote, but did not overturn the pernicious pattern of poverty, unemployment and inferior treatment which still stratifies our society by race and class. The current demands for affirmative action and reparations for African Americans are both about "compensatory justice"—not just the rhetoric of regret, but the actual implementation of policies which redress real grievances and damage against our people and communities.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of history and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University.

Race matters

By Kevin Powell

Racism remains one of America's great sins.

One day it is Denver skinheads killing a West African immigrant. Tomorrow it may be another black man in Anytown, U.S.A., being assaulted by the police.

Then we have the responses: President Clinton's "town hall" meeting on race, and Steven Spielberg's "Amistad," the controversial new film about an 1839 slave rebellion.

While I certainly applaud the efforts of the president, Mr. Spielberg, and other well-meaning individuals to explore America's racial terrain, no amount of town meetings or films will seriously undo the racial fears and confusion this nation has lugged around since its inception. We need to use those town meetings and those films as a starting point, not an end in and of themselves.

If we fail to do that, many black Americans will continue to be skeptical of President Clinton's and Mr. Spielberg's motives. And many white Americans—particularly those who deny racism's existence—will continue to regard both the president and Mr. Spielberg as knee-jerk liberals forcing "old issues" again.

But race is not an old issue, not when it endures as the principal way many people view themselves and others. Race has defined much of the 1990s. Look at the Los Angeles riots, the angry debates on affirmative action, and the grossly divergent reactions to the O.J. Simpson trials. We are not "one nation," no matter how loud we proclaim it. We are, at best, a relatively young nation still forging an identity—and a future.

In today's America, rap music has become the soundtrack for disenfranchised black youth. It's an America that spirals out of control as drugs, violence, self-hatred, and death become fixtures on its dingy landscape.

When I peek through my window onto the Harlem streets, I see turmoil and I see rage. A quick ride downtown and I see comfort, happiness, and peace in the pristine white neighborhoods.

The striking disparity begs several questions: How much does race and racism determine where I can live, the services my community does and does not receive, and why whites only come to Harlem in large numbers when aboard a tour bus?

Clinton suggested, at that Akron gathering, that we need to change perceptions. I concur. But I also think we need to make it possible, with local and national programs, for us to see our connectedness, in spite of race. That means we must be willing to accept that each one of us can—and should—struggle, mightily, to destroy the racial divide.

America was founded on the very dysfunctional relationship between white and black, slavemaster and slave. This sets the tone, in the harshest terms imaginable, for the turmoil we are carrying, consciously or not, into the 21st century.

If we don't deal with slavery and its lingering effects, if we dismiss this American history as ancient and irrelevant, then we won't stop the continuing spiral into deep racial chaos.

Kevin Powell is the author of "Keepin, It Real: Post-MTV Reflections On Race, Sex, and Politics."

Things are so bad, Clinton looks good!

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

There is a great irony in the current scandal surrounding Bill Clinton and the White House. He was instrumental in shaping the mean spirited political scene that he is now overwhelmed by.

Whatever your attitudes toward Mr. Clinton's extra-marital behavior, and whatever your attitudes toward Mr. Clinton's social policies, there is one unavoidable truth in this whole episode. American government and the media thrive off of scandal. They have become utterly partisan and corrupt. In fact they're so corrupt, they almost make Clinton look moral!

There has been much discussion on the conduct of the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, and his prosecutorial pursuit of the Clintons. Some have questioned his decision to wire Linda Tripp for her conversations with Monica Lewinsky, before he had proper authorization to proceed with the investigation. Hillary Clinton tagged him as part of a right-wing conspiracy to get the President.

The Democrats pushed to create an independent counsel after Watergate, fully expecting that this reform would aid their political agenda. But then, the public call for an independent counsel to investigate campaign finance violations by the White House was refused by Clinton's Attorney General, Janet Reno. However, Reno could not turn down Ken Starr's request for authority to expand his investigation into the President's sex life for fear that it would appear too politically motivated.

What of President Clinton? He wrote the book on opposition research and political dirty tricks. His opposition research against all the women with whom he had affairs is legendary. His manipulation of the Sister Souljah affair in 1992 to tag Rev. Jackson as an extremist is well known in Black political circles. These kinds of things are not unusual; they are the stock and trade of the Beltway.

What good can come of this scandal? Perhaps this. We, the people, will get a closer look at how partisan and corrupted a government controlled by these two parties has become. Hopefully, we will be inspired to respond.

Lenora Fulani is currently a leading activist in the Reform Party and chairs the Committee for a Unified Independent Party.

Conflict *is* what is fit to print

By Carolyn Bennett

Conflict is not just in the news. It is the news—conflict for conflict's sake created to sell newspapers and air time.

Journalism teachers used to say news is reported facts. Reporters tell a true story of unusual happenings Journalists are supposed to report, analyze and explain information and events honestly, thoroughly and fairly. Columnists comment fairly. Journalists don't make the news or stage the news.

But, if the past week is any indication of what is news and what makes news news, I think the journalism teacher got it wrong.

This week was an example of a paparazzi pattern driving a free press's hunger, like a dog's, for raw meat. It is a climate where conflict sells. Any battle sells. Give them a fight and they've got a story. Let them start the fight and they've got stories and follow up stories that can go on for days.

The days leading up to the president's state of the union speech was such a week of days that demonstrated the decline of the news into conflict for conflict's sake.

The week saw a morality play centered on the president that, in the hands of the Washington press corps, pitted the executive branch against the legislative branch, Democrats against Republicans, the president's cabinet against the press, men against women, women against women and a president against the presidency.

The New Times' front page Monday morning led with a photograph of moral conflict: the president and first lady in conversation with a white-robed minister as they leave a Washington church. This picture was set against another picture in readers' minds of an intern's allegations about herself and the president that the press had painted all week.

As the new week moved toward the president's state of the union address, the president responded to reporters' questions about the allegations and the first lady defended her husband—and the president.

But the battle kept up. One newspaper reported, then pulled, a story told by an unnamed source. The story was about the unnamed source seeing the president doing what the scandal sheets alleged. And though the story was recanted by the source and uncorroborated through additional reporting by the newspaper, the story was picked up by print and broadcast media and distributed to the world.

The story was untrue, the unnamed source is said to have said later.

But conflict fired people up. It sold newspapers and pulled viewers to see Hillary Clinton defending her husband. It pulled callers to talk radio to debate morality and gawkers to a "weakened" president (that never happened) stumbling through a state of the union speech. And it pulled talking heads, after the speech, to on-air press roundtable's to wonder why the president had showed none of the weakness they had predicted he would show following, the week of "scandal" talk. The president acquitted himself quite well, in fact. And particular parts of his speech countered the press's push for conflict.

He spoke again of one America. "Wherever people of all races and backgrounds come together in a shared endeavor and get a fair chance," the president said, "we do just fine."

"With shared values and meaningful opportunities and honest communication and citizen service, we can unite as a diverse people in freedom and mutual respect."

"We are many; we must be one."

Carolyn Bennett is a columnist in Washington, DC and lecturer at Howard University.

Come home, Vernon Jordan

By William Reed

Not to worry Vernon Jordan, even though you seem to have forgotten about the African-American community, "We ain't mad at ya." But, that being said, isn't it true that people who gain their acclaim representing us, should be of benefit to us? During the past decade Jordan's been a contradiction to his own statements about blacks and not a much of an asset to the vast majority of us even though he is seen as representing us.

As First Friend of President Clinton, Vernon Eulion Jordan, Jr. could be called the "Crown Prince of Affirmative Action." Former head of the National Urban League, Jordan has reached a pinnacle of influence in Washington, D.C. He is first on The Black List of the nation's power-elite and is sought after for corporate boards and social circles. The man who initiated the Black Leadership Forum in 1977 is the a black success story among the white-dominated elite, but something of a empty suit for blacks outside that loop.

Born August 15, 1935 in a black West Atlanta housing project, Jordan makes over a million dollars a year just for having his name on the door of the prestigious law firm of Akin, Gump. He is the top practitioner of Washington's bread-and-butter business: power brokering. On the black side, Jordan went to Washington's Howard Law School and for 20 years worked his way up the ladder of civil rights organizations including: the NAACP; the Voter Education Project; the United Negro College Fund and National Urban League.

In his last speech as executive director of the Urban League, Jordan rejected the idea that individual achievement was important when large proportions of African Americans live in poverty. Now, the record shows Jordan using contacts at corporations to assist already rich and privileged ex-White House intern Monica Lewinsky, and to obtain over $100,000 in contracts for former Assistant Attorney General Webster Hubbell, after a conviction in the Whitewater probe. Jordan personally intervened with people on whose board he sits, petitioning Revlón, American Express and the Burson-Marsteller public relations firm for a job for Lewinsky and legal work for Hubbell, although he was awaiting his jail sentence. However, little information exists showing where Jordan intervened similarly for young African Americans from neighborhoods such as his birthplace.

In attempts to actualize affirmative action at high levels in their operations, an unprecedented number of corporations have appointed Vernon Jordan and his wife to seats on their boards. We know that this is because those corporate officers wanted to satisfy a need for blacks in that position. Evidently this has escaped Vernon and Ann Dibble? At the Urban League Jordan criticized the Nixon, Carter and Reagan Administrations for the harmful effects their governments had on African Americans. Now' Jordan is the spool guarding and guiding at the door. We might not be mad at him, but, isn't it justifiable for us to want Jordan to use the power and positions he's gained in our name and hold his feet to the fire demanding that he bring more bacon back home and help more blacks?

William Reed is the publisher of Who's Who in Black Corporate America.

City News
Heartbeat of the City

☐ $39 CITY NEWS ☐ $19 MINORITY BUSINESS JOURNAL
☐ $10 MINORITY BUSINESS TO BUSINESS DIRECTORY ☐ SEND ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Subscribe to City News/MBJ today and don't miss a beat!

✓ appropriate box to indicate subcription desired.

Name
Address
City State Zip
Home Phone Business Phone

• Make check payable and send to: City News, P.O. Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 •

BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

NEWARK—A half-day workshop: "Understanding How and When to Challenge Property Tax Assess-ments" will be held from 8 a.m. to noon at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel. For more info, call 973-242-6037.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

NEW YORK—California-based video artist, Bill Viola's work will be presented at the Whitney Museum. For more info, call 212-570-3633.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

SPRINGFIELD—The Sharing Network's next meeting will be held from 7p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Sharing Network. For more info, call 973-379-4535.

EDISON—"It's All About the Benjamins—Financial Empowerment for the Next Millennium," will be delivered by Brooke Stephens at noon, in Room 319 of the College Center at Middlesex County College. For more info, call 732-906-2566.

TRENTON—A Financing Fair committee meeting will be held at 9 a.m. at the Trenton Business and Technology Center. For more info, call 609-396-7246.

TRENTON—An Advertising/Marketing committee meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Trenton Business and Technology Center. For more info, call 609-396-7246.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

FAIRFIELD—A one-day seminar on "How to Develop and Deliver Powerful Employee Orientation Programs" at the Radisson Hotel and Suites. For more info, call 1-800-821-3919.

NEW YORK—You are invited to attend the Eighteenth Annual Business Awards Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt New York Grand Ballroom. For more info, call 212-573-2385.

Review your credit frequently

ELIZABETH—A credit report is an important personal finance document. It contains a summary of your credit accounts and your total indebtedness — both current and potential.

If you use credit, it's a good idea to review your credit report every few years. This is especially important when you're getting ready to buy an expensive item such as a car or new home. Taking the time to check that your credit report is accurate could prevent your loan approval from being delayed.

The three major credit reporting agencies are Experian (formerly TRW), Trans Union and Equifax. By law, they cannot charge a fee for a credit report if you contact them within 60 days of denial of a request for credit, insurance, employment, or rental housing based on information contained within your credit report. You also may be able to receive a free copy if "adverse action" was taken against you based on information in your credit report (e.g., your interest rate was raised or your credit limit was decreased).

If none of the above situations apply, the fee for obtaining a credit report is $8 ($16 for a married couple seeking "his and hers" reports). Under a law passed in July, The New Jersey Fair Credit Reporting Act, New Jersey residents will be entitled to one free credit report per year. To obtain a copy of your report, you need to send reporting agencies the following:

- full name (including generation, such as Jr., Sr., III)
- current and previous addresses for a five-year period.
- Spouse's full name, if married (for joint accounts)
- Social Security number
- date of birth
- photocopy of an identifying document with name and address (e.g., driver's
- license, utility bill, or military ID)
- signature

Be sure to include the required information listed above and either a copy of the letter notifying you of an adverse action, the appropriate fee, or a note indicating New Jersey residence.

Credit file errors exist for a variety of reasons. Sometimes a clerk makes typographical error or misreads a handwritten credit application. Two family members with the same name and/or address could get "commingled". Consumers can also introduce errors into a credit report themselves by obtaining credit under different names (Robert and Bob, for example, or Margaret and Peg). Mistakes can—and do—happen. This is why periodic credit report reviews are recommended.

NAACP forms lodging Industry task force

BALTIMORE—As the NAACP's Economic Reciprocity Iniative expands to additional industries, President Kweisi Mfume announced the establishment of a mechanism for on-going oversight of the hotel industry. A Hotel Initiative Industry Advisory Task Force has been created to provide the NAACP with insight and guidance and to help capture information in the industry for each successive report card. The Task Force is designed to involve professionals in the tourism and travel industry with expertise related to hospitality and interests in advancing opportunities for minorities. Volunteers who have stepped forward to become a part of this task force include representatives of convention and visitors bureaus, the American Hotel Motel Associations, tourism entrepreneurs, marketing experts, and trade media.

The group had an initial meeting at NAACP Headquarters January of this year to review the current status of the NAACP Initiative and to make recommendations on how the advisory committee should be constituted. Participants meeting with NAACP officials included:

Valerie Ferguson—Chair, American Hotel & Motel Association

Sol Herbert—Publisher, Editor-in-Chief, *Black Meetings & Tourism*

Karin Hopkins—Vice President, Multi-Image Resource Group

Andy Ingraham—President, Horizons Marketing Group, Inc.

Roy Jay—National President & CEO, African American Convention & Tourism & Oregon Convention & Visitors Services

Phala Mire—Executive Director, Greater New Orleans Black Tourism Network

Romona Risco—President, Risco & Associates

The NAACP is now in year-two of the lodging industry review. An advisory task force is an excellent way to facilitate ongoing implementation of the program. Those who work within the industry represent a valuable asset to the NAACP in advancing its economic empowerment mission.

Financial tips to start the year out right

WESTFIELD—Is getting your finances in order one of your top priorities? You're definitely not alone! Saving more, spending less, and reducing accumulated debt are common topics of conversation at this time of year. Looking for specific ideas that you can adopt? Below is a list of tips for decreasing expenses and freeing up money to save or reduce debt:

- Consider refinancing your mortgage if you plan to stay put long enough to recoup the closing costs.
- Start brown-bagging your lunch, instead of eating out. You could save hundreds of dollars. Ditto for snacks and sodas.
- Borrow videos, books, and magazines at the public library.
- Ask an insurance agent to review your policies to make sure you're not paying more than necessary or missing discounts.
- Dry clothes indoors or outdoors, when possible, to save at Laundromats or on your electric bill.
- Shop "alternative" vendors such as flea markets, garage sales, thrift shops, and consignment stores for inexpensive items.
- Make do with what you have. Consider postponing the purchase of "big ticket" items like a car or computer.
- Write letters or use e-mail instead of making expensive long-distance phone calls. Contact your local utility company to arrange for an energy audit and inexpensive energy conservation measures.
- Turn back the thermostat at night and when not one is at home.
- Slash food expenses by 10 percent. Do this by buying fewer snack and convenience foods and making better use of coupons, store and generic brands, and price breaks.

Of spreadsheets and speeches:

CFOs place a high value on communication skills

MENLO PARK, Calif.—Don't expect your accountant to recite Shakespeare at the local theater, but next to getting the numbers right, 96 percent of financial executives surveyed nationwide say communication abilities are a key success factor for accountants.

The survey was developed by Accountemps, the world's first and largest temporary staffing service for accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. It was conducted by an independent research firm and includes responses from 1,400 chief financial officers (CFOs) from a stratified random sample of companies with more than 20 employees.

Respondents were asked: "How valuable are strong communication skills in your accounting staff?" Their responses:

Very valuable	76%
Somewhat valuable	20%
Not at all valuable	2%
Don't know/no answer	2%
Total	**100%**

"Increasingly, accountants are relied upon for their business interpretation of numbers and data, which requires strong verbal and written competencies," said Max Messmer, chairman of Accountemps. He added that as accountants' roles become more critical to a firm's overall operations, and as their interaction with other departments increases, the premium placed on solid interpersonal skills will continue to rise.

Are your dollars spent with businesses that value your patronage?

Rebuilding the urban marketplace means patronizing businesses that support your community

Next time think before you spend your hard-earned dollars

- Do these businesses hire people from your community?
- Do these businesses support economic development in your community?
- Do these businesses make charitable contributions to religious, civic and social groups in your community?

Find businesses that value your dollars in City News

Redefining who we are

Blacks respond to targeted financial services

According to a report by Packaged Facts, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, exceeded their market projections by 15%.*

*Packaged Facts is a product of FIND/SVP Research Publications Group

Announcing **two** great opportunities to reach the African-American Business & Professional Community through the

Minority Business Journal

of New Jersey and New York

1 MBJ March:
Financing your business Part I
SBA Special Section
- Profiles of SBA clients
- Profiles of SBA top lenders
- Who's lending to minority businesses
- Applying for an SBA loan
- What lenders look for

Space reservation by: Feb 20, 1998
Ad by: Feb 27, 1998

MBJ April: 2
Financing your business Part II
and
Black Investment Month
Profiles on:
- New Jersey Economic Development Authority
- New Jersey Development Authority
- Casino Reinvestment Authority
- New Jersey Reinvestment Authority

- Setting up an investment club
- Investing through your bank
- The basics of investing
- Stocks, bonds, mutual funds: getting the best mix

Space reservation by: March 6, 1998
Ad by: March 16, 1998

Ask about our 2-issue discount

Call (908) 754-3400 for more information

Don't miss your opportunity to inform minority businesses and professionals about your financial services

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

HAWKS MEDIA GROUP, INC.
Now Available
Wedding Videos
DESKTOP PUBLISHING • ADVERTISING • COMMERCIALS
PHOTOGRAPHY - VIDEO PRODUCTION
Ask about special introductory prices.
PO BOX 272, CRANFORD, NJ 07016 908-709-8947

Watkins
Quality products Since 1868
* Spices * Extracts *Health *Laundry
EXCEPTIONAL INCOME OPPORTUNITY
OWN YOUR OWN HOME-BASED BUSINESS
LESS THAN $35. TO START
Call Independent Marketing Representive
for Free Information 201-674-0312

Natural Gas Users!

If you use natural gas for

cooking

heating

drying clothes

Shop Around for the best price

To learn how, call the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 1(800) 624-0241

Making Smart Choices in New Markets...

It's Your Call

Local Briefs

Assemblyman reassigned to education committee

IRVINGTON— Assemblyman Craig A. Stanley has been reassigned to a key committee post that will oversee legislative action on issues affecting all aspects of education for students throughout the state.

Assemblyman Stanley

Stanley said the education Committee will have its hands full, considering the recent court recommendation for an additional $312 million in aid for special needs districts. "The issue of school funding in New Jersey is at a critical juncture," said Stanley. "The decisions and commitments that this Legislature makes are monumentally important in determining the quality of education that, our children receive.

Assemblyman increases pressure to ensure pedestrian safety for school children

NEWARK—Assemblyman William D. Payne (D-Essex) has called for immediate closure of the I-78/West Peddie Street ramps in order to protect the lives of students at the Belmont-Runyon Elementary School in Newark, as well as other residents in the area.

Payne's call to action an attempt to change conditions which force children to negotiate heavy volumes of speeding traffic near the School. In explanation of the proposed action, he said "At least two students attempting to cross the busy intersection have been killed by vehicles speeding to the ramps."

Newark gets $2.8 million grant to resurface Broad Street

NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James announced that the City of Newark has received a $2.8 million federal grant to be used to resurface Broad Street.

"Broad Street is one of Newark's most heavily traveled thoroughfares, with at least as much traffic as Raymond Boulevard or Frelinghuysen Avenue," James said. "As a result, it is necessary to resurface Broad street every few years, especially as the downtown area continues to grow."

The Black and Gold will fly proud in new stadium

NEWARK—The Malcolm X Shabazz Bulldogs will have reason to cheer, when the State District Superintendent of the Newark Public Schools and the Mayor of Newark unveil a sign heralding the future home of the high school's football team.

The unveiling ceremony, postponed on February 5 because of inclement weather, has been rescheduled for February 24 at 10 a.m. The Shabazz Athletic and Football Field will be about 12 acres in size, covering approximately two square blocks bounded by West Bigelow and West Alpine Street, and Hillside and Johnson Avenues. "Newark students deserve the best facilities for learning and for athletic competition," said State District Superintendent Beverly L. Hall. Our ability to build this complex is a testament to the importance of a productive partnership between city and school officials on behalf of Newark students."

A graduate of Malcolm X Shabazz (when it was called South Side) High, Mayor Sharpe James said, "I am the Bull Dogs Number 1 fan, and I can't wait to cheer them on to victory in their own brand new stadium."

Programs at Jersey City State receive awards

JERSEY CITY—The New Jersey Youth Corps and AmeriCorps Programs at Jersey City State College have received the National Award for Exemplary Service Project of the Year for 1997 from the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, making them the only corps in the United States to have won multiple National Awards from the Association.

Presented to the two groups for the traveling museum exhibit, "Vietnam Memories: Stories left at the Wall," the 1997 National Award follows ones presented to the Corps in 1993 and 1990.

"Vietnam Memories" Stories left at the Wall"is an exhibit of items selected from the warehoused collection of over 54,000 mementos which have been left at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial since its dedication in 1982

Automation/on-line system now part of Willingboro library

WILLINGBORO—Thanks to their new Library Director, Christine H. King, the public library has come out of the dark ages of the dusty draws of card catalogs and into the world of brightly lit computer screens. Willingboro Public Library Board of Trustees and staff recently, celebrated the Inauguration of WILLIS (Willingboro Information System), their new DYNIX Automated Library System. Willingboro residents will now be able to search for items in the library's catalog by using cutting edge technology, without the assistance of the library.

Members will be able to access their own personal library record to find; what items they have checked-out, what items they have placed a hold on, if they have overdue items, or if they have fines. Customers will be able to create bibliographies which they can print out and take to the shelves for locating materials. At check-out and at check-in they will be able to receive a printed record of titles and due dates.

The celebration included guest speaker Sharon Coleman, who is one of six online editors for Philadelphia Online, the electronic publishing division of the Philadelphia Inquire and Daily News newspapers. Ms. Coleman spoke on the impact of the Internet on print media. Also speaking was Carol J. Suplee, Area Historian/Author. Ms. Suplee writes a bimonthly column entitled "South Jersey Attitude" and is the moderator for the Burlington County Issues Forum for New Jersey Online, the state-wide web site.

Combined with other technologies already in place such as CD-ROM databases and Internet Access, Willingboro residents now have a state-of-the-art library with 10 public access computers that operate with a Windows '95 graphical users interface. Now a trip to the Willingboro Public Library will be simpler, more efficient and more rewarding than ever before. "This new system enables us to fulfill our dream of being our community's information hub in today's electronic world," says Christine H. King, Library Director. "The system is easy to use, and the power is amazing. Our community is going to be very happy with how accessible the library's materials have become."

Future additions to the system will offer many more features including the ability to remotely dial-in to the library's catalog data base and Internet access through the public terminals.

Willingboro Library Director Christine King

Post Office celebrates the century with name your stamp

Unveiling "The Great Train Robbery" stamp earlier this month at the Edison National Historic Site in West Orange is , from left, Joseph Friedman, Executive Director, New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission; Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., renowned actor, writer and son of the legendary silent film star, and New Jersey resident Michael Uslan, Executive Producer of all four "Batman" films.

For the first time, the public, including school children will be invited to put their own stamp on history by voting of subjects that will be featured on stamps through the Postal Services' "Celebrate the Century" program. Spanning a two-year period, the Postal Service will issue sheets of commemorative stamps heralding significant occurrences of each decade of the 20th century.

Stamps representing the years 1900 to 1949 have already been recommended. However, stamp subjects representing the years 1950 to 1999 will be voted on by the public. Each decade ballot, beginning with the 1950's will be divided into five voting categories from which the public will be invited to up to three specific subjects.

Ballots for each decade will be available at all post offices and special "Celebrate the Century" events like the recent unveiling of the Great Train Robbery Stamp at the Edison National Historic Site, recognizing New Jersey as the birth place of the film industry. "The great Train Robbery stamp commemorates the importance of New Jersey as the birth place of the film industry," said Northern NJ District Manager , U.S. Postal Service, Eugene H. Rear.

"The Great Train Robbery" was the first silent film that actually told a story. It was also the first Western and the first film to use editing techniques such as the pan and close-up. Premiering in 1903, the 10-minute, one reeler told the tale of a band of robbers holding up a train that included the dramatic scene of a robber firing a gun directly into the camera.

Deadline for School Board candidates nears

TRENTON—The president of the New Jersey School Boards Association reminded citizens the deadline for filing nominating petitions for local school boards candidacy is March 2.

"Being a school board member is one of the most important and satisfying jobs a New Jewsey citizen can have," said Beula M. Womack, NJSBA president. "If you care about children and the quality of education in your community, then now is the time to consider board membership.

NJSBA has supplied local school districts with "School Board Candidate Kits" to assist citizens who are considering running for office. To obtain this information contact your local school board office or call the NJSBA Information Office at 609-278-5202.

Plainfield places emphasis on reading

PLAINFIELD—"There are many ways that we can improve our city," said Darlene McWilliams; the First Lady of Plainfield and mother of five. "My children's education comes first, and reading is the single most important part of their education," she said. "I want them to read for the knowledge but more important I would like for them to enjoy reading. It is the key that unlocks the future for them."

Mrs. McWilliams is part of The Globe Group, an organization that will assist Plainfield Partners for Progress launch a citywide campaign to focus on the importance of reading both for fun and for knowledge.

The purpose of "Plainfield Reads" is to encourage the residents and businesses throughout the city to unite and support this common goal, that which is to enjoy reading. Working to establish this goal will empower residents to generate positive support for the school system's "Plainfield Reads Now" volunteer reading program, lend further support to the Plainfield Public Library's literacy programs and draw additional attention to the many educational programs, poetry and theatre programs that are held in the city.

"One aspect of this program that should be very appealing is that it doesn't cost anybody anything. By doing something for yourself, you are automatically doing something for every body else. It is very important for us as a community to find new ways of supporting our school system.

Although the emphasis is placed on reading, Plainfield Reads is not limited to only books. The program also encourages the community to positively embrace alternative learning skills and broaden their avenues of communication. An on-line communication network, workshops and a book fair will be a very important part of the program's format.

"By broadening our selection of video rentals, attending existing programs and special events held at the library and supporting New Audiences for Plainfield is one way of lending support", says Michael, "then the second way is to tell someone else." "Both programs," say Ms. Dawson, "Plainfield Reads and Plainfield Reads Now, compliment each other. It's like we are all on the same page. They make us further aware of the resources that are already available in the community and how they can best be used to our advantage.

The Plainfield Reads "project" focus social awareness, educational growth and reading as a means of enjoyment. It is an opportunity to learn something new through traditional means and at the same time improve our basic communication skills. "It is quite simply something we can all do" says Mrs. McWilliams, "to help ourselves and reach out and help others in the community. For Additional information please contact Pat Dawson at 908-756-0006.

SPEAKING OF GREAT RATES

6.99% APR 5 YEAR FIXED-RATE
7.24% APR 10 YEAR FIXED-RATE
7.49% APR 15 YEAR FIXED-RATE

HOME EQUITY LOANS WITH NO CLOSING COSTS

No application fee. Annual Percentage Rates shown available as of date of publication. Monthly payment for every $1,000 borrowed: 6.99% (5 years), $19.80; 7.24% (10 years), $11.73; 7.49% (15 years), $8.26. APR is shown assume automatic payment from a BNB checking account. If automatic payment is not made, APR will be .50% higher. Maximum loan to value ratio 80%. Title insurance may be required on loans in excess of $150,000.

BNB
BROAD NATIONAL BANK
We speak your language

15 OFFICES SERVING ESSEX, BERGEN, UNION, HUDSON & MIDDLESEX COUNTIES
NEWARK: 905 Broad St., Chestnut St. & Wheeler Point Rd.,
133 Jackson St., 290 Ferry St., 468 Bloomfield Ave., 745 Broad St.
plus ATM services at Gateway and at the Continental Airlines concourses at Newark Airport's Terminal C
EAST ORANGE: 554 Central Ave. • ELIZABETH: 826 Elizabeth Ave., 1000 S. Elmora Ave.
KEARNY: 180 Schuyler Ave. • LIVINGSTON: 30 W. Mount Pleasant Ave.
MILLBURN: 225 Millburn Ave. • NO. ARLINGTON: 55 River Rd.
PERTH AMBOY: Convery Plaza, Rt. 35
1-800-306-CASH
Visit our Internet site at http://www.broad-national-bank.com

Equal Opportunity Lender
Equal Housing Lender
Member FDIC

HEARTBEAT

Your guide to healthy living

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

JERSEY CITY—AIDS educator and consultant Patricia Eckart will speak on "HIV on Campus: What You Don't Know Can Kill You" in room 304 at Jersey City State College from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3426.

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital is offering a Weight Reduction Program from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Adult DayAway Center in the Community Health Services Building. For more info, call 201-837-1850.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

MONTCLAIR—A Blood drive will be held from 2:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Montclair Chapter, American Red Cross. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital will present group sessions covering various aspects of diabetes management from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Community Health Services Building. For more info, call 201-833-3186.

ISELIN—Free Arthritis education programs offered to community organizations. Any group that wants up-to-date information on arthritis should call 732-283-4300 or 609-482-0600 to arrange for a free volunteer speaker.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital's CPR Training Center is offering cardiopulmonary resuscitation for infants and children from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info, call 201-833-7246.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NEWARK—A blood drive will be held at St. John's Ukranian Catholic Church from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD.

CALDWELL—A blood drive will be held at St. Aloysius Parish Center from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info, call 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

NJN—"Using Technology in Science" will air at 8 a.m. on NJN through February 27. For more info, call 609-777-5093.

Action proposal for prostate cancer

WASHINGTON—The American Cancer Society recently issued a National Blueprint for Action describing a multifaceted set of proposals aimed at overcoming the disproportionate burden that prostate cancer imposes on African American men.

According to the Society, African American men have the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world and their death rate from this cancer is twice that of white men. The reasons for these differences are not known. The Society estimates that 184,500 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed in American men in 1998, African American and white combined, making it the leading cause of cancer in the nation.

Charles McDonald, M.D., president-elect of the American Cancer Society said that the proposed plan was the product of a national meeting held in Houston in November, involving more than 250 lay and medical leaders dealing with these issues. Representatives from numerous African American, medical and government organizations collaborated on the meeting's agenda and helped to develop the action steps. Many have already pledged to collaborate on implementation.

Dr. Charles McDonald

Dr. McDonald said that while the proposed plan included many action steps which were organized in four main categories; research, education, support for patients and families, and public policy, there were five critical challenges, he emphasized, that stand out. He listed them as:

1. The urgent need to increase research regarding prostate cancer, especially in African American men; specifically into its cause, risk factors, potential prevention and new effective treatments.

2. The necessity to involve African Americans in research design, in the implementation of clinical research, in the development of education initiatives, and as patient participants in clinical research trials.

3. The mandate for effective lay and professional education regarding prostate cancer, especially for primary care health providers.

4. The challenge of strengthening the capacity of grassroots organizations, particularly in the African American community, to effectively engage in advocacy and in education and patient support initiatives.

5. The importance of developing more community-based support programs for African American patients and their families.

"We have to attack this problem very much like we did with breast cancer," said Dr. McDonald. "We very much need a compelling national movement. Fifteen years ago a woman with breast cancer suffered the loss of her breast, but research gave us the clinical tools to allow today for lumpectomy as an option to total mastectomy. I'm convinced we can find similar answers for the prostate cancer questions we currently face, " he added

Thomas Dortch, president of 100 Black Men of America agreed that the action proposals must be moved forward by individual organizations and collectively as partners. He has pledged to ask other African American organizations to join the collaboration and plans to develop a "curriculum" on prostate cancer for meetings of 100 Black Men of America.

Is soul food good for you?

CHICAGO—Throughout history, African Americans have enjoyed a variety of foods seasoned and prepared in a manner that is culturally unique. These foods are often dubbed "soul food." But in recent years, registered dietitians and medical researchers have questioned whether these foods that soothe the soul spell disaster for African American health. African Americans continue to experience higher mortality rates and lower life expectancy than white Americans. How much of a role does the traditional African American eating style play in disease promotion and overall health?

The American Dietetic Association's (ADA) biennial Nutrition Trends Survey reveals that while eight of 10 African Americans realize the importance of eating well, only 36 percent saying they're doing all they can to achieve a healthful eating plan. When it comes to making dietary changes, some African Americans say "not!" So what barriers do African Americans name to keep them from bridging nutrition attitudes into action? How can culturally unique foods, recipes and traditions be part of a healthful eating plan?

Nutritionist Barbara Dixon

Barbara Dixon, R.D. (registered dietitian), ADA's expert in African American nutrition and health issues, can provide action-oriented, positive tips for improving eating habits, without sacrificing taste or tradition. In addition, she can discuss what African Americans' say are the most common barriers to eating well, including:

- Fear of giving up favorite foods (37 percent)
- The belief that eating well takes too much time (29 percent)
- Confusion over nutrition reports and studies (29 percent)

"The diets of many African Americans are still high in total calories, fat, sodium and low in fiber," according to Dixon. "Coupled with strong family history of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and certain forms of cancer, this type of eating style can be the fuse that ignites the time bomb linked to disease."

Dixon observes that many African Americans are surprised to learn what small steps they can take to improve their health while enjoying their food. "We need to shift into a mind set of moderation, not elimination," explained Dixon. "Giving up family favorites is not the answer. Instead, we can find a balance through preparation methods and the quantity and frequency of the foods we choose."

Where African Americans receive their nutrition information differs from other groups. Like all others, 63 percent of African Americans count television as their major source of nutrition information. However, 17 percent of those surveyed say they are much more likely to get information from doctors than whites and far less likely to get information from newspapers.

All Americans find dietitians and doctors to be "very valuable" sources of nutrition information, yet blacks are more likely to feel these health professionals are the best sources. This is also true of specialty magazines, radio and women's magazines.

"Media focused on African American audiences have much credibility, particularly if the sources are people of color," commented Dixon. "That's why it's so important for black health care professionals to be visible."

More African Americans say they pay "no" attention to labels—compared with Americans as a whole—and fewer pay "very close" attention to labels. However, 34 percent of blacks find the Food Guide Pyramid "very useful" in making food choices compared with 28 percent of Americans overall. In addition, more African Americans (15 percent) find it "very difficult" to understand nutrition guidelines, versus eight percent of others.

Exercise helps arthritis pain

ISELIN—Regular moderate exercise may be the key to feeling better for the nearly 40 million Americans who have arthritis. That is the message of the historic Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health. The report outlines the benefits of regular, moderate physical activity—a long-standing message of the Arthritis Foundation.

The good news is that people with arthritis can benefit from just 30 minutes per day of regular moderate exercise such as walking, bicycling or even gardening. Now people with arthritis can exercise at their own pace and still be assured of the benefits of exercise.

According to Andrew B. Weinberger, MD, Chair, Medical and Scientific Committee, of the Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, regular moderate exercise can help control joint swelling and pain associated with arthritis and is an important part of an overall treatment plan. "It can help people maintain their range-of-motion, reduce stiffness, and may prevent further joint damage," Weinberger said.

It is important for people with arthritis to keep their muscles as strong as possible. The stronger the muscles and tissues are around the joints, the better they will be able to support and protect those joints—even those that are weak and damaged from arthritis. Without exercise, muscles become smaller and weaker and bones can become more brittle.

In response to the Surgeon General's call for regular moderate physical activity, the Arthritis Foundation encourages people with arthritis to "Get Ready, Start Moving." For more information about arthritis, including a free brochure, Exercise and Your Arthritis, contact the Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, at 908-283-4300 or 609-482-0600.

The Arthritis Foundation is the source of help and hope for nearly 40 million Americans who have arthritis. The Foundation supports research to find ways to cure and prevent arthritis diseases, and seeks to improve the quality of life for those affected by arthritis.

Free Immunization Fair

For Newark Preschoolers

Co-sponsored by

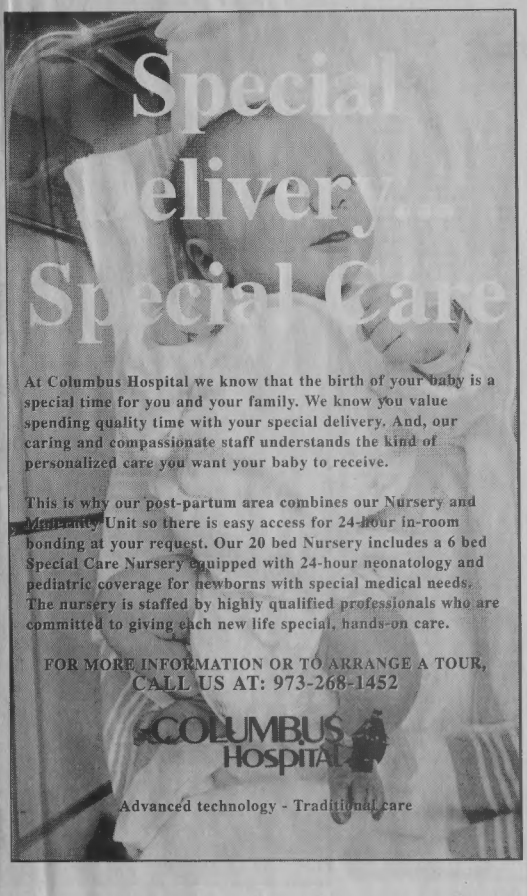
Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
An affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System

AD-House FRC

Wednesday, February 18 • 2-5 p.m.
Family Health Center
Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
166 Lyons Ave., Newark, New Jersey

- Parents must bring a current immunization record for each child.
- Vaccines for polio, measles, diphtheria, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), rubella (German measles), tetanus, Haemophilus influenza type b (a cause of bacterial meningitis), varicella (chicken pox), and hepatitis-B will be available.
- Free refreshments, entertainment for children, and information about immunizations will also be provided.

For information call Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center at (973) 926-2809 or AD-House Family Resource Center at (973) 372-0457



Working families will benefit from new White House child care proposal

•A Closer Look at the President's Child Care Initiative

Special to the NNPA from DHHS

Recently, President Clinton proposed a new program to improve child care for America's working families. As a public service, Secretary Donna E. Shalala and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are providing readers these "Frequently Asked Questions" about the new child care proposal to help give you some insight about what it could mean for you and your family.

What exactly does the child care proposal entail?

President Clinton proposes to spend $20 billion over five years for a variety of enhancements to child care. This would help pay for child care services, build the supply of good after-school programs, improve safety and quality and promote early learning. This would be the single largest investment ever in child care in the country's history.

The President has four goals with this initiative. He wants to make child care more affordable for working families; promote early learning and healthy child care development; improve the quality of child care, and expand and streamline after-school care programs.

In what way is this important to African-American families?

The President's proposals will help millions of African-American families, whether they are low-income, single-parent households or two-income professional families. This will be especially good for those families who are struggling at the lower end of the socio-economic scale trying to meet child care expenses while satisfying other obligations. This is also important to African-American families because of the rapidly expanding black middle class where, in most cases, both parents work outside the home. Like other middle class Americans, a lot of African-American parents are looking for help with child care needs.

How does the President propose to make these enhancements?

The President is recommending four specific actions to enhance child care for working families. Those actions are: 1) doubling the number of children receiving child care subsidies to more than two million by the year 2003 through increasing Child Care Development and Block Grant funding; 2) increasing the child care tax credits for working families as well as offer a new tax credit for businesses that offer employee child care services; 3) providing after-school care for more children by expanding funding for school-community partnerships that are designed for school-age children; and 4) improving safety and quality and enhancing early childhood development through a variety of measures, such as establishing an Early Learning Fund and offering scholarships to child care providers.

Why is the President choosing to do something now about child care?

The Clinton Administration has always placed support for America's working families a top priority. The President proposes this initiative now because of the overwhelming need for child care as expressed by families across the country. Of the 10 million children eligible for federal aid, only one million receive support. Since President Clinton took office, federal funding for child care has risen by 70 percent, which benefits the parents of about one million children. Also, the 1996 welfare reform legislation increased child care funding by $4 billion over six years, which provides assistance to welfare families primarily moving to work. This is just the latest in a series of family-friendly initiatives the President has put forth, including the Family Medical Leave Act, the Earned Income Tax Credit and the new children's health insurance program.

When would these new child care strategies go into effect?

The President is requesting funding for these initiatives starting in the fiscal 1999 Budget, which was formally submitted to Congress on Feb. 2 along with other U.S. Department of Health and Human Services priorities. Congress must approve these proposals in order for them to go into effect at the beginning of the fiscal year, Oct. 1, 1998. As child care has always received bipartisan support, the administration looks forward to working with the Congress on this important proposal.

About how much more would the average family get in tax credits?

The President's plan would increase the tax credit for families earning under $60,000 a year. That would amount to an annual tax cut of an additional $358 for families in this income range. The expanded tax credit would, in fact, wipe out tax liability for most families whose incomes are under 200 percent of poverty (for example, $35,000 a year for a family of four). About three million working families would benefit from the tax credit expansion.

What are some of the activities that my employer and some other businesses would have to undertake to obtain the child care tax break?

Businesses would earn these tax breaks by providing child care services to their workers. This would include building or expanding child care facilities, operating existing facilities, training child care workers, or providing child care resources and referral services to workers. These credits cannot exceed $150,000 per year.

What are the President's ideas to promote early learning?

The President proposes to start an Early Learning Fund to provide grants distributed by states to local communities to support a variety of programs for children 0-5. Those include such activities as basic training for child care providers, linking individual child care providers to centers for education and support. The President is also requesting funding to expand Head Start over the next five years to serve one million children by 2002, and he wants to double to 80,000 the number of infants and toddlers in Early Head Start.

How will my child's day care environment be improved?

Your child will be in a safer day care environment under the President's plan. He encourages states to build on the successful child care model the military uses. This would encompass more support for states to step up enforcement of their health and safety standards, including unannounced inspections; background checks on providers; establishment of a Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund for some 50,000 students each year who are working toward a child care credential; and initiating a research fund that would broaden what we know about child care. The President's proposed research fund would also include a hotline that parents can dial up to find out about their local child care resource and referral.

What's in the President's proposal for older children?

Older children will benefit greatly from the President's plan through an expansion of after-school care programs. This would be done through providing more money to expand or add before- and after-school programs for children through school-community partnerships. In addition, a pilot program involving several federal agencies collaborating on after-school funding will be tested in five cities.

American Heart Association. Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

If you are what you eat, why not cut back on fat?

People are talking...

about Cardiology services at Muhlenberg

Recently I had a cardiac catheterization and can't express how impressed I was with the care from all the people who treated me. Everyone at Muhlenberg was sincere, extremely kind and made me feel right at home. I tell everyone I meet that if they need to go to a hospital they should go to Muhlenberg. The care is tremendous.

-Jack Silcox
Cranford, NJ

Let's get to the heart of the matter... When you have a heart problem, our staff can help even *before* you get to the hospital. And once you *are* here, our physicians and nurses will treat you with a combination of state-of-the-heart compassion and state-of-the-art technology. When it comes to matters of the heart, your heart matters.

- When seconds count, Muhlenberg's **Mobile Intensive Care Team/Mercy 6** travels right to you, delivering immediate cardiac care.
- When you enter Muhlenberg's **Emergency Department,** our experienced doctors and nurses can quickly and accurately diagnose your heart condition using tests like echocardiograms, stress tests and nuclear scans. To date, **Muhlenberg cardiologists have performed over 5,000 cardiac catheterizations.**
- If you do need to be admitted to the hospital, **acute cardiac care and cardiac telemetry unit** staff provide individual care tailored to your needs.
- To help your heart *stay* healthy, our **cardiac rehabilitation program** starts with education and information and then incorporates monitored exercise.

For more information about Cardiology Services at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, call: (908) 668-2555 or visit our web site at www.muhlenberg.com.

MUHLENBERG REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, INC.
Park Avenue & Randolph Road, Plainfield, NJ 07061
An affiliate of SOLARIS Health System℠
Affiliated with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey / Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
VHA United to Improve America's Health™

Your partner for Healthier living. ©1998

Clergy provides spiritual guidance to inmates

ELIZABETH—Union County Jail officials have hired four clergymen of different faiths to expand the facility's program of counseling inmates and preparing them for life on the outside. After extensive interviews by a three-member committee, Rabbi Moshe Weiblum Father William Guyure, Lorne Johnson and Lawrence Finn, III are conducting respective Jewish, Catholic, Islamic and Protestant services, while counseling prisoners as part of the Elizabeth jail's expanding pastoral care program.

"Spiritual growth is important to rehabilitation and may contribute to the public's safety," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. "These gentlemen bring sensitivity and spiritual guidance that inmates need in addition to incarceration."

Dorothy Williams, assistant director of the Union County Division of Correction Services said. "Our job is not to determine a person's guilt or innocence," she said. "Because corrections is an integral part of the justice system and part of community service, we must provide opportunities for spiritual growth in an atmosphere that offers self-examination for inmates to help them deal with life when they are no longer in jail," she said.

Union County Freeholder Chester Holmes said that hiring the clergy exemplifies the county's commitment to provide humane care and rehabilitative programs for prisoners in order to reduce recidivism.

"The security of Union County residents is dependent on the efficient running of a facility that emphasizes the incarceration of, and help for, inmates," said Freeholder Holmes liaison to the Union County Juvenile/Criminal Justice Advisory Board.

"The more we help inmates with personal and spiritual growth during their confinement, the better it will be for society as a whole," he said.

Wilda Rivera, supervisor of the Union County Jail's Social Services, said that inmates frequently request religious counseling.

"Inmates are more serene when they attend services and are receiving spiritual guidance," she said.

Ms. Williams said that, in addition to being responsible for providing individual counseling and group worship sessions and coordinating the 26 weekly services, clergy will soon be developing ties to religious and community organizations.

The Sport Of Black History:

From them to us, for you and me

By Marion Boykin

Black History Month is time to pay homage to all those brothers and sisters that have helped in one way or another, to get us where we are today in the many games we play with one another, on the field and off it as well.

One of the greats: Jackie Robinson.

It's easy to look at a Michael Jordan or a Ken Griffey, Jr. and feel proud, but it should be just as fulfilling, if not more so, to look at a Jack Johnson, Jesse Owens, or Jackie Robinson.

What our athletes display today on sports fields everywhere, is a continuation of the same initial sweat and toil from the efforts of so many of our black athletes. Some are well known, others obscure, but all are important. Beneath all the successes and failures, is a sense of purpose in an even bigger game being played. Perhaps one where the real champion runs a leg of the race in his time period, so that we can continue the race in ours.

You've heard the histories down through the decades on sports greats like Wilma Rudolph, Sugar Ray Robinson, Satchel Paige, Althea Gibson, Jim Brown, Muhammad Ali, etc., but that history also includes others where the light might not have shined as bright, like one of the very first Black world champions in any sport, cyclist, Major Taylor, boxers, George Dixon and Battling Siki, golfer, Ted Rhodes, and billiard great, Cisero Murphy. They all helped us in different ways and sports, to show that the black man was as good as any man, in anything that could be done.

I suggest to you a very good book on this subject. In "Darwin's Athletes: How Sport has Damaged Black America and Preserved the Myth of Race," by John Hoberman, a sparkling analysis is given about Blacks in sports, yesterday and today; what's good about it and what's not. It delves deeply into our place in the games, the ones we win and those we lose.

All of that history and reams more, leads us to an ultimate fight, to a struggle that still appropriately lifts us up out of the dirt and dust and into the sun. In many ways, amidst our various champions today, has now stepped the furthest down the road our great athletes were walking. In his second fight with Mike Tyson, Evander Holyfield was ridiculously fouled, a piece of his ear actually bitten off. Despite the absurdity of it all, Holyfield fought on and raised his head above the stench of the moment and did not condemn Tyson. Instead he forgave him and wished him well. In doing that, light overcame darkness for a kind of victory in a particular race that yields few champions. Despite the oft-time confusing pain and gain of the glory, many more times than not, we continue to win.

Desire is stronger than fear

By Michael A. Grant, J.D.

How has fear held you back? Have you contemplated going into business for yourself but continued to postpone the date for leaving that "secure" pay check? Have you found yourself clinging to someone in a love relationship that is defined by persistent frustration, anger, deceit, and a disquieting sense that it's going nowhere? Or, maybe you are plagued by one of the many phobias that create minefields full of fearful traps, obscuring your dreams.

At first glance, it would appear that the old phantom fear is unstoppable in its goal to prevent each of us from developing our God-given potential.

Fear will invade the private world of your inner-most thoughts and stifle your would-be-plans for growth, more fulfillment, a greater sense of achievement, a sincere desire to give something of value to others, or just enjoying a sense of well-being.

Unchallenged, fear can and does wreak havoc on our lives. It relishes its headlock that suffocates the brain activity that would unleash creative energies needed for the grand design.

So what must you do to reign fear in or better to drive a stake through its life-sucking heart? The answer is rather simple; common sense but not common practice: Focus more energy on desire.

Desire is stronger than fear. It is absolutely true that a burning passion for something will give you the added fuel to drive right through the illusionary wall created by fear. But weak, equivocating desire will not suffice. The type of desire to which I refer must be deeply-rooted and energized by compelling reasons. You must know why you want what you want!

If, however, demanding circumstances do not create an intensity of desire for you, you may have to manufacture your own compelling reasons to conquer fear. But only by defeating fear are any of us able to move to the exciting realm of what is really possible for our lives. The good news is that it is within our power to do so.

Desire and fear are both strong emotions. But, desire causes us to shift our focus. Desire silences the dreaded conversations within, replacing them, instead, with an inner-dialogue that creates pictures of a positive outcome, forcing the darker more ominous scenes to fade to the background.

So, the next time you become aware that fear has you in its grip, break its stronghold by consciously shifting your thoughts to reasons why you must get beyond the fear. Focus with intensity. Use the awesome power of your imagination to "see," in vivid colors, the object of your desire.

This is why the process of goal-setting is most effective when we begin with the end result in mind. This allows us to enjoy a preview of the desired outcome.

Protest against religious persecution

WASHINGTON—Halima Frink, third from right, of the Founding Church of Scientology leads a vocal demonstration in front of the German Embassy in Washington, DC to protest the German government's policy of religious intolerance. Adherents to the Scientology religion have vowed to continue such protest to expose Germany's human rights abuses against Scientologist, Muslims, and other minority religions in Germany.

The Church's efforts were recently bolstered when the U.S. State Department's Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad released a report condemning Germany for inciting harassment and violence against religious minorities.

'Miracles' messenger imparts profound message

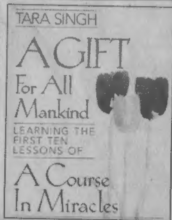
LOS ANGLES—Tara Singh, one of the most highly regarded teachers of *A Course in Miracles*, has conducted many successful weekend workshops on this transcendent system of spirituality that goes beyond organized religion and modern tools such as psychotherapy. The latest in a series of workshop held across the country, entitled "Wisdom Is In Silence," will take place from March 6-9, in Philadelphia on the University of Pennsylvania campus.

All great scriptures are true, yet they deal with what other great beings did.

Singh says, "All great scriptures are true, yet they deal with what other great being did. *"A Course in Miracles*, the first scripture that has emerged in the new World, in English, speaks directly to you," he said. It is meant for the man or woman living in these pressured times and offers a step-by-step curriculum for undoing our illusions."

The author of nine books, including *A Gift for All Mankind*, Singh's background includes close association with leaders of the East and West, including Prime Minister Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi and Eleanor Roosevelt. He spent five years in silent retreat in California to discover the truth of it directly. At the end of his silence he encountered *A Course in Miracles* and its author, Dr. Helen Schucman.

In 1993 Tara Singh established to established the Joseph Plan Foundation, a nonprofit educational and charitable foundation dedicated to meeting basic human needs and to introducing people to the joy of service.



Highly rated!

6 Month Certificate
5.60%
Annual Percentage Yield

Minimum only $1,000.
Variety of other rates and terms available.

12 Month Certificate
5.80%
Annual Percentage Yield

15 Month Certificate
5.75%
Annual Percentage Yield

18 Month Certificate
5.75%
Annual Percentage Yield

24 Month Certificate
5.75%
Annual Percentage Yield

Rates effective February 2nd.
Subject to change without notice. Interest is compounded continuously and payable monthly. Penalty for early withdrawal from certificates.

Passbook savings available!

Invest with the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 249 Millburn Avenue, Millburn • 1-800-252-8119

CHATHAM: 169 Main Street*
CLARK: 56 Westfield Avenue* Bradlees Shopping Center*
COLTS NECK: Highway 34, P.O. Box 127
DEAL: 88 Norwood Avenue, P.O. Box 227
EAST ORANGE: 27 Prospect Street
EDISON: 1655-65 Oak Tree Road*
FREEHOLD: Highway 9 and Adelphia Road*
HILLSIDE: 1128 Liberty Avenue*
IRVINGTON: 34 Union Avenue, 1331 Springfield Avenue, 1065 Stuyvesant Avenue
LIVINGSTON: 493 South Livingston Avenue*, 371 East Northfield Road*
LONG BRANCH: 169 Broadway
MADISON: 16 Waverly Place*
MILLBURN: 243 Millburn Avenue*
NAVESINK: Highway 36 and Valley Drive*
PLAINFIELD: 130 Watchung Avenue*
SCOTCH PLAINS: 437 Park Avenue*
SPRINGFIELD: 173 Mountain Avenue, Mountain and Morris Avenues*
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: Highway 71 and Warren Avenue
TOMS RIVER: 874 Fischer Blvd., Bay Plaza* (Shop Rite Center)
UNION: 977-979 Stuyvesant Avenue, Rickel Shopping Center, Route 22*

*Investors 24-Hour ATM Location

Deposits FDIC insured to $100,000

Black History Month Calendar

continued from front page

NEWARK—A Celebration: African American Storytelling in Art and Music will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. in The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

NEWARK—Paul Robeson: A Play With Music, by Phillip Hayes Dean will be performed at 2 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

MORRISTOWN—Kuumba in the Atrium Gallery, "Kuumba" denotes creativity and represents the title and theme of an exciting exhibition of African-American art through March 27 which features more than 120 works by 35-40 artists including William Tolliver (shown in photo), Alonzo Adams, Richard Haynes, Leroy Campbell and Deborah Willis. For more info, call 973-386-9825.

MOUNTAINSIDE—Children's Specialized Hospital will present African artwork from Kenya in a show produced by Haynes Imports. Visitors are requested to enter the hospital through the Ambulance Entry. For more info, call 908-233-3720.

NEWARK—"Africa Meets America" an exhibition of the paintings of an African artist from Ghana, Nii Aso Glover, a resident of Newark. He will exhibit his master collection of over 16 paintings at the African Globe for the first time. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

NEWARK—"Africa: Arts of Power and The Work of African-American Artists" will highlight black history and its rich and enduring legacy at 3 p.m. through February 28 at the Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

WAYNE—"Parenting Day" will include family activities, games and discussion of issues relevant to parents during African Heritage Month from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-720-2949.

EAST ORANGE—Poetry, music and networking will be held from 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at the Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-1087.

HISTORY CHANNEL—"Don't Get Weary: African-Americans in 18th Century Alexandria: a community of free blacks resided in Alexandria. There, merchant John Carlyle allowed slaves to live in his house and taught them trades, which permitted them to work in various occupations. This program airs at 8 a.m.

NEW YORK—"Out of Haiti", Paintings will be on exhibit at the New York Public Library through February 27 by Yolene Legrand (in photo) in the Treasure Room Gallery. Free admission. For more info, call 212-870-2933.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

NEWARK—The nurturing, positive impact of community will be addressed in a symposium entitled: "The Other Mother: Community Empowerment of African American Women in the Arts" at 3 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

NEWARK—Night of the Warrior Dancers, a presentation of contemporary African martial arts styles and demonstration, will be held at 5:30 p.m. at African Globe Studios. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"The Lessons and Legacy of African American Heritage," by Dr. Maulana Karenga will be presented at noon in the Student Center Ballrooms at Montclair State University. Admission is free and open to the public. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

NEWARK—"Voices of the Folk"—the highly inspiring and entertaining musical ensemble—will perform a special weekday concert at 2p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

MORRISTOWN—An African American History Celebration consisting of workshops, films, and games will be held at the Morris Museum. For more info, call 973-538-0454.

PRINCETON—Philadanco, a performance by a contemporary African American dance company will be held at the McCarter Theatre. For more info, call 609-683-8000.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

NEWARK—A photographic exhibit "Focus on the Mission" from The Photographic Project at Focus: HOPE in Detroit, Michigan, featuring the works of Detroit high school students. This exhibit will begin at 5:30 p.m. in The Atrium, St. Joseph Plaza. For more info, call 973-639-7848

JERSEY CITY—"African American Women and the Church" will be the subject of a program at 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Room 217 of the Michael Gilligan Student Union Building. For more info, call 201-200-3189.

PBS—Artist, Saihou Njie shares his love of batik fabric painting in the all-new week of Mister Roger's Neighborhood about "Giving and Receiving."

HISTORY CHANNEL—"Ships of Slaves: The Middle Passage," a documentary on the story of the transatlantic slave tradea 11 p.m.

continued on page B4

A man who won't die for something is not fit to live.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Black History Month calendar

continued from B3

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

NEWARK—The New Community Corporation will have an African Extravaganza Festival/Bazaar at 7 p.m. at the St. Rose of Lima School. For more info, call 973-481-5582.

NEWARK—"The Negro building" is a play that will be held at The Newark Public Library at 6:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-733-7735.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"Ujima: Collective Work and Responsibility," by Dr. Saundra-Collins at noon in the Student Center Ballrooms. A potluck lunch, African food tasting, will follow. For more info, call 973-655-4198.

WAYNE—Dr. Daniel Meaders, William Paterson assistant professor of history, will present a lecture on lynching from noon to 2 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. An accompanying photo exhibit will provide a strong visual component to the lecture. For more info, call 973-720-3103.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

NEW YORK—The African Heritage Network (AHN Prime) hosted by film legends Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee presents John Singleton's hit feature film, Boyz 'N The Hood at 8 p.m.

PBS—Neighbor LeVar Burton of Reading Rainbow visits with Mister Rogers (both in photo) to share his pleasure in reading on program #1725 in an all-new week of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

SOMERSET—Male and female amateur boxing will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. For time and additional info, call 732-821-7578.

NEWARK—African discovery through music, a musical narrative about the African American experience told through the Negro Spirituals, contemporary gospel to today's rhythm and blues to rap music. The program is being presented at the College of NJ at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

EDISON—A heritage celebration: party, dancing, refreshments, etc. will be held from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Cafeteria at Middlesex County College. For more info, call 732-906-2566.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

NEWARK—"Love and other Tragedies" will bring together romantic poets at 7:30 p.m. at the African Globe Studios. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

EAST ORANGE—An African marketplace with various vendors will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-1087.

NEWARK—"The Negro building" is a play that will be held at The Newark Public Library at 6:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-733-7735.

NEWARK—African Tribal Dance will be performed through songs and instruments by The Okra Dance Company, 2 p.m. at The Newark Public Library. For more info, call 973-733-7735.

NEWARK—A concert featuring Sons Da Lusofonia: Music from Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guine Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and Sao Tome e Principe will be held at 8 p.m. at the Victoria Theater, NJPAC. For more info, call 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—A bus trip to the African Burial Ground Film Festival in New York City is planned for 10:45 a.m., followed by a visit to Sylvia's Soul Food Restaurant. For more info, call 973-655-4198.

BALTIMORE—A trip to Baltimore will take participants to the Black Wax Museum and Baltimore Harbor. The bus depart at 7 a.m. and return at 10 p.m. For more info, call 973-720-3103.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

NEWARK—Experience the thrilling story of Harriet Tubman—the Moses of her people, who led more than 300 slaves freedom on the Underground Railroad—in "Freedom Train", a musical for children and adults will begin at 3 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium, The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

NEWARK—Rhyme Tyme III, a Hip - Hop open mic will be the third in a series of shows that will feature local hip - hop talent, rappers and DJ's and MC's. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at The African Globe Studios and is hosted by Jerry Gant. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

NEWARK—A piano recital featuring Awadagin Pratt will he held at 3 p.m. at The Victoria Theater, NJPAC. For more info, call 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

THE HISTORY CHANNEL—"America's Black Warriors: Two Wars To Win": The story of African-Americans in the U.S. military during World War II and the integration of the army will be aired at 11 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

HBO—Spike Lee's HBO original documentary film, "4 Little Girls" revisits the tragic 1963 Birmington, Alabama church bombing that claimed four young lives airs tonight. For more info, call 212-512-1000.

EAST ORANGE—A discussion about African identity will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-1087.

WASHINGTON—Dennis Kimbro, author of "What Makes the Great Great: Strategies for Extraordinary Achievement," will share advice from some of today's most successful African Americans. For more info, call 202-357-2700.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"A celebration of African Heritage in the Caribbean" will begin at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Ballrooms at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-655-4198.

NEW YORK—"Mamba's Daughters" (shown in photo) a play by Dorothy and DuBose Heyward, will have its first-ever revival since the original 1939 Broadway production at the Here Theatre, 145 Ave. of the Americas, one block south of Spring St. For starting time, and more info, call 212-647-0202.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"Fires in the Mirror," Anna Deavere Smith's searching look at the 1991 Crown Heights racial confrontation, will be presented at Montclair State University's Memorial Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-655-5112.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"African Folktales: Stories that Teach," by Dr. Chinedu Nnamah-Okoye will be held in the Student Center Ballrooms at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-655-4198.

EDISON—"The Police and the African-American Community," lecture by Hassan Salim, at 11 a.m., College Center in Middlesex County College. For more info, call 732-906-2566.

WAYNE—"Sankofa," will be shown in the PAL lounge in the Student Center at 8:00 p.m. For more info, call 973-720-3103.

JERSEY CITY—An unveiling and dedication of the Jackie Robinson Statue will take place at 10:00 a.m., at the Journal Square PATH Station. For more info, call 212-290-8600.

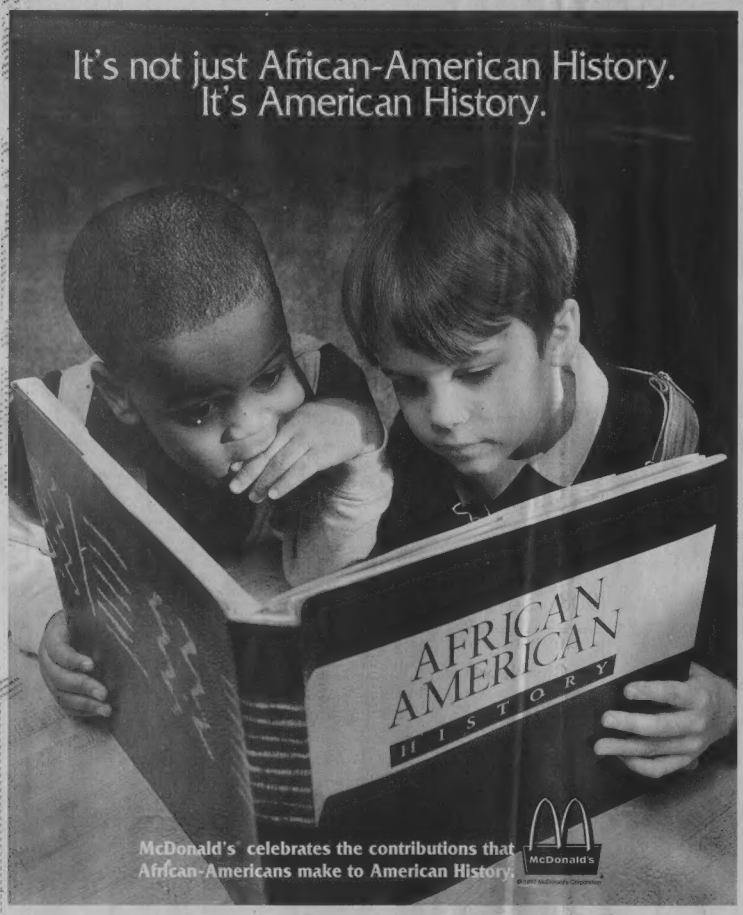
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

EAST ORANGE—A weekend music seminar will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at The Black United Fund. For more info, call 973-676-1087.

NEWARK—Verse 4 Verse combines the finest in Poetry reading by poets from the tri-state area, live bands and lyrical entertainers. The program is produced by Ras Baraka and Jerry Gant and hosted by Juba. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at The African Globe Studios. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—A conference on "The Path of the Slave: Africa, South America, Caribbean, North America" will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Brant Lecture Hal in Dickson Hall at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-655-5143.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A poetry slam, by Middlesex County College students will be presented at 6:00 p.m. at Middlesex County College, New Brunswick Center. For more info, call 732-906-2566.



Scoop Du Jour

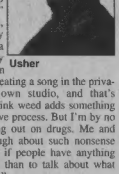
with Asendra R. Hunter

Welcome to a world where fun and fantasy meet peril and verity at the crossroads between film-related news and music bidbits. NOW that I'm back from sunning and funning at the wonderful all- inclusive Sandals Resort in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, I can give you the 411 on a few of your favorite people. My driver to Sandals said that he saw none other than Bobby Brown and Whitney Houston running through the airport as if they were being chased by killer bees.

Bobby Brown

Now, don't laugh, you'd run for cover too if you'd read trashy supermarket tabloids written about yourselves.

The question is what truth (if any) has been doled out in the supposed Whitney/Bobby" white powder in drink" episode that took place at a night club. Well, I talked with Bobby about such alleged incidents and his prior drug use and he offered the standard post rehab declaration: "I don't pick up anymore," then added, "I may smoke a joint every now and then when I'm creating a song in the privacy of my own studio, and that's because I think weed adds something to the creative process. But I'm by no means strung out on drugs. Me and Whitney laugh about such nonsense and wonder if people have anything better to do than to talk about what we're doing."



Usher

Unfortunately, Bobby, they don't. Adds the wily dancer, "I have better thing to do. I'm getting ready to shoot a movie with Glenn Plummer and Malik Yoba. It's called "Liberty City" and it's coming out in 1998."

Also out in the 98... Have you seen the fabulous Loreal campaign featuring the recently divorced Vanessa L. Williams? She looks picture perfect in the ads I've seen so far. I spoke with the avid horseback rider about upcoming projects and she told me about filming the "Shut Up And Dance." The film, which centers around Brazilian dance, allowed her to show off some very sensual dance moves—the type that make 1987's "Dirty Dancing" look like fare for an after school special. "I did all of my own dance steps and that wasn't easy, because some of the dances require a lot of movement. I had to learn several different types of dance for the part and I must say that it was quite a work out."

Eighteen-year-old Usher Raymond's second album, My way is certified double platinum album—yipee—but, that's not the only reason why this Libran ladies' man is fermenting in elation. Let him tell it, the acting bug bit him on the butt while filming an episode of "Moesha" with Brandy and now he's going to star in his own show. Usher told me this during a recent phone interview: "It's gonna be a fun show. Kirk Franklin plays Regis, who seems to be similar to someone like Hammer. Kirk's character was once a big huge pop star and then he squanders his money living ghetto fabulously and ends up with nothing. Then he gets himself together and starts pretty much from scratch and has to come back to his community for support to build himself back up. I play this character who has dreams of becoming what Kirk's character once was."

Whitney Houston

Dreams do have a way of becoming reality. Usher will be performing at this year's Grammy's.

Finally, look out for another stellar Laurence Fishburne performance in HBO's "Always Outnumbered" based on Walter Mosley's novel. Mr. Fishburne, a big fan of old movies told me that acting is the ideal career. "It's hard for me to imagine being anything else, because this is what I do," says the veteran actor. I'm a very creative, disciplined person, but I also enjoy listening to music. I sing a little and I can play the harmonica. I might have become a musician if acting hadn't found its way to me. But, I don't know. I can't even think about any other career. "On the flip side, Fishburne adds, "People think acting is so glamorous and stardom is wonderful, but it's a job like anything else. It has its disadvantages just like any other profession. Somedays, I want to just go home and leave stardom on the set where I left my job. I have a tremendous amount of respect for a person who has chosen a traditional career—to the delivery man who wakes up at 5 am so that I can have milk with my cereal or the guy who opens his store up extra early so that I can buy the milk. I respect the woman or man who works hard to make sure my water has been turned on so that I can take a shower and brush my teeth when I wake up. I applaud them. They are just as important as someone with a very visible career, because maybe at he end of the day, after they've helped make my life comfortable, they'll want to go to Blockbuster and rent a video. Perhaps it will be one of my movies they rent when they think about relaxing and perhaps I will have the opportunity to give them back something in exchange for all that they've given me."

Laurence Fishburne

Malletman will hit on Valentine's Day

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Jason "Malletman" Taylor is making a name for himself on New Jersey's entertainment scene. With performances at the Newark Jazz Festival, the Robert Treat, and more recently at November's African American Heritage Masquerade Ball at New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Malletman is soothing audiences with his cool vibraphone harmonies.

"I lived with Lionel Hampton in New York for about three years, and I ended up playing xylophones in his band. I was definitely his protégé. I was fortunate enough to play with Dizzy Gillespie, George Benson, and Allison Williams among others in Lionel's band."

Jason will delight lover's this Valentine's Day, at Maxine's, a cabaret-style, jazz club in Trenton, N.J. located at 121 S. Warren St., on February 14 with shows at 7 and 11:30 p.m.

If your interested in some of that Sunday mellow music, the Malletman's CD "Color by Mallets" is available at Scotty's, on South St. in Morristown, Sam Goody's on Rt. 22 in Hillside, and Sam Goody's on Speedwell Ave. in Morristown. The Mallet-man will also be hosting a lunchtime show at 11-11:30 at the Johnson & Johnson atrium in Skillman, N.J. on Feb. 20.

Wedding-Showers
Christenings
Corporate Functions-Meetings
Affordable Rates

Park Plaza
Banquet Hall Rental

111 East Front Street
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Telephone
(908)469-7932
Fax (908)469-7520

Bring/mail ads to:
144 North Avenue
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Classified/Legals

Fax legals to:
908-753-1036
24 hours a day

Legal Notice Legal Notice Legal Notice

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey will accept proposals for upgrading its existing computer system located at the Authority's central office, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. All services must comply with federal, state, local laws and be in accordance with the existing rules, orders, directives, regulations and handbooks promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of New Jersey.

The services that are requested will be as follows:

1. Upgrade the Authority existing computer system by installing the hardware and software contained in the "Proposal Submission Format;"

2. Ensure that all equipment and software are properly functioning at the completion of the work, including the Local Area Network (LAN);

3. Protect the Authority's existing programs and data during the installation of process;

4. Transfer all programs, data and other information to ensure that the Authority's existing programs function properly within the context of the scope of the new operating system (Windows 95);

5. Include all items that are necessary to ensure that the new system operates effectively and efficiently in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations;

6. All labor, materials and equipment necessary for upgrading the Authority's existing PCs and LAN shall be included within the scope of the price submitted by the vendor (no extras).

7. Complete all work within 5 working days;

8. Make recommendations for enhancing the system's efficiency.

9. Provide standard industry accepted manufacturer warranties on all hardware and software.

Qualifications:

1. Must have a minimum of 5 years experience in comparable work of this size and magnitude;

2. Must be approvable by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide these services.

3. Must be approved installers by the manufacturers of the hardware and software being utilized (if applicable).

Proposal Submission:

All persons interested in submitting a proposal for upgrading the Housing Authority's computer system should submit a proposal based upon a lump sum. The following documents should be submitted with the proposal.

1. Completed "Proposal Submission Format."

2. A Certificate of Insurance.

3. Copies of any applicable licenses for installing the hardware and software.

4. A listing of a minimum of ten (10) references for comparable projects.

Proposals should be delivered to the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey on or before March 26th, 1998 by 4:00 p.m. Vendors should submit two (2) copies of their proposal in a sealed envelope titled- "Proposal or Computer Upgrade." The proposals will be opened at the March 26th meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

WILLIAM F SNYDER
Executive Director

$169.00

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

Invitation
Re-Bid

The Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park will re-bid for Extermination Services due to discrepancies in the specifications, sealed bids for Extermination services at N.J. 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6 and 7-7 will be received until10:00 a.m. on March 2, 1998 at the Administrative Office located on 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712 at which time and place all bids will be opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held February 23, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Office at which time you will be able to visit the sites.

Specifications are available from the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey. Please contact the Maintenance Office, (732) 774-2660 for information.

The Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Authority also reserves the right not to open bids if fewer than 2 are received.

$52.00

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Under the terms of the "Open Public Meetings Act" P.L. 1975, C. 231, there will be a **DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET HEARING** with the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Union:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998 AT 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Union County Administration Building, 6th Floor, Freeholder Meeting Room, Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

BY ORDER OF THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

M.Elizabeth Genievich
Clerk of the Board

$33.80

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown is seeking - multi-disciplined architectural and engineering firm (A/E) to provide professional services for the implementation of work items included in the Comprehensive Grant Program (CGP) as follows:

1. NJ23-1, NJ23-2, and NJ23-3 - replacement of underground water and heat distribution lines. Budget amount: $525,000.

2. NJ23-1 (8 buildings) - replacement of roofs, windows, siding and gutters. Budget amount: $250,000

3. NJ23-2 (4 buildings) - replacement of windows, siding and gutters. Budget amount: $100,000

4. NJ23-2 - upgrade heating and domestic hot water boilers. Budget amount $50,000

5. NJ23-5 - A/E feasibility study on converting efficiency apartments to one (1) bedroom apartments.

6. NJ23-6 -Total roof replacement. Budget amount: $200,00.

Interested A/E firms are invited to contact Christopher Martin, Modernization Director, at 1-973-292-4140 if there are any questions on construction intent.

Specifications can be obtained at the Administrative Offices of the Morristown Housing Authority 31 Early Street, Morristown, NJ during regular business hours or can be mailed by calling - 973-538-6343.

Two (2) copies of proposal must be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. on February 13, 1998.

David Gardner
Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

AUDIT SERVICES

The Asbury Park Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, New Jersey (the "PHA"), is requesting proposals from qualified firms to conduct an audit of its financial books and records for the twelve (12) month period ending March 31, 1998. The audit will be conducted according to the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984, OMB Circular A-133 such other requirements as may be promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or the State of New Jersey.

Proposals must be made on the proposal format available from the PHA. Interested parties can obtain a proposal format by calling (732) 774-2660 X913.

Proposals should be received in an original and seven copies, not later than 10 a.m., February 27, 1998, at the following address and clearly marked "**Auditor Search**."

Asbury Park Housing Authority
1000 1/2 Third Ave.
Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Attention: "Auditor Search"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL

The Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park is seeking proposals from attorneys or law firms to serve as the Authority's General Legal Counsel for the period commencing April 1, 1998 and terminating March 31, 1999. Attorneys submitting proposals to the RFP must be licensed to practice law in the State of New Jersey and must not be under sanction from HUD.

Parties interested in submitting a proposal in response to the RFP, should contact the Executive Director's office at (732) 774-2660 x913, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays and request a detailed RFP, which will more fully state the requirements of the proposal. Proposals must be received by 10:00 a.m., February 27, 1998, in order to be considered.

Claudia A. Sweeney
Executive Director

ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CONSTRUCTION MONITORING SERVICES INCLUDING ON-SITE INSPECTION ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified construction monitoring firms for construction project monitoring services as required by CRDA related to the development of properties in the City of Atlantic City, NJ. This work involves collection and review of contract documentation, verification of invoices, progress reporting, etc. for CRDA as a construction lender; this work is not construction management.

If awarded a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L.1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C.17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 1998. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Kenneth Reese
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

$83.20

ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REAL ESTATE TITLE SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified title insurance companies for real estate title services as required by CRDA related to properties which the CRDA may acquire in the City of Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L.1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C.17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 19, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014/Aliantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 1998. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Daniel J. Saul
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

$68.90

ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES ON AS NEEDED BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified real estate appraisers for real estate appraisal services as required by CRDA related to properties which the CDRA may acquire in the City of Atlantic City, NJ.

If awarded a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C.17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

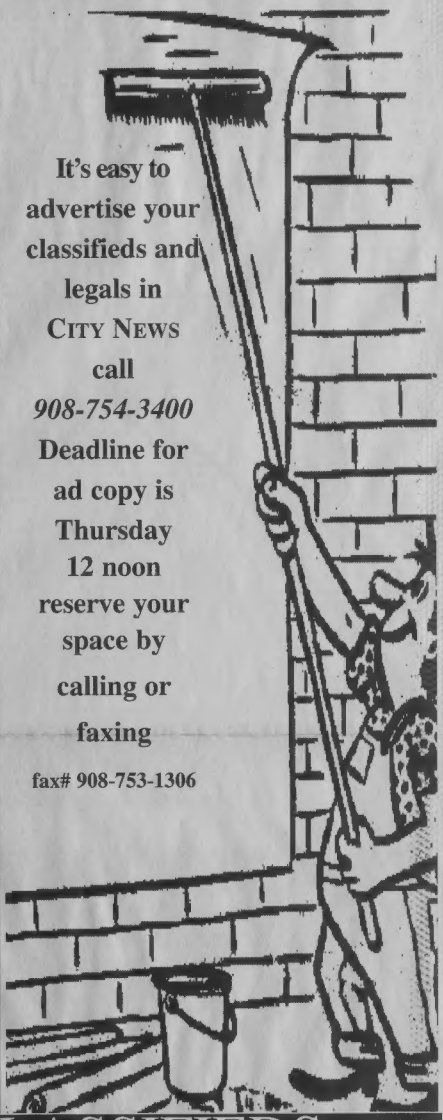
A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 19, 1998 at CRDA's offices located at 1014/Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ. Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 1998. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Daniel J. Saul
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

$70.20



It's easy to advertise your classifieds and legals in CITY NEWS call *908-754-3400*
Deadline for ad copy is Thursday 12 noon
reserve your space by calling or faxing
fax# 908-753-1306

CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., a leading bottler and distributor of Coca-Cola Products has the following opportunities available servicing accounts throughout Northern and North Central New Jersey.

ACCOUNT MANAGERS

Entry-level sales position responsible for sales of Coca-Cola products by developing strong customer relationships and exceptional customer service in all accounts. Requires 2-3 years sales experience. Some positions require food service experience.

DISTRIBUTION/ MERCHANDISER SUPERVISORS

Supervise delivery/driver and merchandising personnel on a daily basis, ensure customer satisfaction, resolve safety issues, ensure DOT compliance. Requires 2-3 years supervisory experience in sales or distribution.

Both positions require strong leadership, teamwork, communication, planning/organizational, and decision making skills. College degree preferred.

ALWAYS Coca-Cola

We offer a starting salary in the $30,000 range along with a competitive benefits package. Please mail/fax resume to: **The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc., 118 Moonachie Ave., Carlstadt, NJ 07072. Fax: (201)438-9215. No Phone Calls Please.**

EEO/AA Employer. Women & minorities encouraged to apply.

HELP WANTED

Merchandisers

Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., a leading bottler and distributor of Coca-Cola and allied products, is seeking in individuals to service accounts throughout Northern and North Central New Jersey.

Selected individuals will merchandise our products, build displays and stock shelves, and must have their own reliable transportation. (CDL Class B license a plus). All applicants must demonstrate initiative, as well as customer service and teamwork skills. Must possess clean, valid drivers licence.

ALWAYS Coca-Cola

We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. **Please apply in person** (no calls please) **at our branch offices at: Coca-Cola Bottling Company Of New York, Inc.:**

- **701 Jefferson Rd. Parsippany, NJ 07054**
- **735 Rt. 35, Neptune, NJ 07753**
- **118 Moonachie Ave. Carlstadt, NJ 07072**
- **1500 Livingston Ave. North Brunswick, NJ 08902**

EEO/AA Employer. Women & Minorities are encouraged to apply.

HELP WANTED

$300 - $500

Distributing phone cards. No experience necessary. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Primetime Communications, P.O. Box 694355, Miami, FL 33269-1355.

HELP WANTED

Call about Classified advertising 908-754-3400

Subscribe to City News Call 908-754-3400 to place your subscription

Reach a whole new market, advertise in City News... call 908-754-3400

HELP WANTED

****Graphic Designer****

Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.
Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Photographer*

Freelance photographers wanted to cover events throughout New Jersey. Reimbursed for travel expenses. Must be responsible. Developing not necessary. We supply film. Willing to work with new photographers.
Send resume and preferred work hours to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Teacher, educator wanted

To write and edit a 4-page, monthly National Teacher's Guide. At least two years of teaching experience necessary, preferably grades 6 and up. Send resume to: Y Teacher's Guide, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07060

FOR SALE

1994 HONDA CIVIC EX 5-SPEED
FULLY LOADED
SUNROOF
CHERRY RED

Call 908-755-4711

HELP WANTED

Newspaper delivery routes available throughout New Jersey

Call (908) 754-3400

PISCATAWAY
from $699
1 BEDROOM
1LW
$915
2 BDRM TOWN-HOUSE
PLEASANT VIEW GARDENS
262 CARLTON AVE
OPEN 7DAYS 9:30-5:30
1 lw
732-968-6348
Includes heat, H.W., Gas, A/C.
Free Swim Club for new residents.
Equal Housing Opportunity

Union county employees receive better insurance coverage

ELIZABETH—Union County stands to save more than $800,000 in property and health insurance premiums while its employees will benefit from better medical coverage under a resolution proposed to the Freeholder Board recently.

The resolution, sponsored by Freeholder Vice Chairman Nicholas Scutari, switches the coverage of employees enrolled in PruCare to the First Option Health Plan, and could save about $700,000—or 19.4 percent—in insurance premiums over two years. More than $100,000 will be saved by having Hartford Insurance Company insure county property for 14 months.

As employers, it is our responsiblity to provide the best health coverage for those who work so hard to serve residents.

"This is a win-win situation, the responsible thing to do," said Vice Chairman Scutari. "Employees now have improved comprehensive health coverage cost to the county. We also are covering county property while paying less in premiums. As employers, it is our responsibility to provide the best health coverage for those who work so hard to serve residents. As watchdogs of taxpayer money, it is our responsibility to ensure that funds are spent wisely."

After an extensive review of many health insurance and property insurance plans, the county's Citizens Insurance Review Committee (CIRC) determined that the First Option Health Plan met the budgetary, requirements of the county and the coverage needs of workers. According to First Option, it has one of the largest managed-care networks in New Jersey' with more than 60 member hospitals and more than 11,000 physicians in all 21 counties.

Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan praised the committee for their hard work and for continuing the county's commitment to fiscal and social responsibility. "I applaud the conscientiousness of everyone who made sure that the county would get the most for its dollars," he said. "With health care and insurance changing so rapidly, people are concerned about the quality and amount of care they will receive. I am extremely pleased that we will meet these needs of individuals and families."

Senate and Assembly coalition formed for expanded educational impact fees

TRENTON—Members of the Senate and Assembly announced bi-partisan sponsorship of legislation to permit towns to assess "educational impact fees" on developers to improve and enlarge schools. The legislation, S-60/A-494, would also add parks, transportation, flood control and waste water treatment to the types of municipal infrastructure improvements for which a town may now assess impact fees.

S-60/A-494 would create the legislative authority the courts say is necessary to assess educational impact fees. Developers in New Jersey have opposed the use of impact fees for schools. But popular support for the idea is increasing in fast-growing areas around the state, according to the coalition, with an increasing number of school boards adopting resolutions in support of the concept.

"A broad-based coalition of educational, municipal and taxpayer groups united to support the effort from the grass-roots," announced Senator William Schluter (R-23) who is sponsoring the Senate bill. "We believe builders should contribute a fair share for schools and other services that result directly from new development. Giving towns this broader authority will ease the burden on local property taxpayers, help community planning, and ensure adequate educational facilities."

Under the proposed legislation, municipalities could charge developers a share of the school facilities improvements made necessary by new development. This proposed change to New Jersey's Municipal Land Use Act would give municipalities a source of up-front financing for the massive investment in school facilities caused by high growth.

In addition, it would permit municipalities, for the first time, to assess impact fees for such improvements as parks, transportation, flood control, waste water treatment and water distribution made necessary by development.

For New Jersey, the issue is more critical than ever, noted Dr. Robert E. Boose, executive director of the New Jersey School Boards Association. He serves as co-chairman of the impact fees coalition with William Dressel, executive director for the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

"Wherever I see those sales trailers at housing construction sites, I start thinking about the mobile classrooms schools will need when they're bursting from the seams," said Dr. Robert E. Boose,. "New Jersey faces a multi-billion-dollar need for new school facilities, and it's clear that local communities are having difficulty footing the bill." He pointed to a recent New Jersey School Boards Association study that shows that voters have defeated over half of the school construction bond proposals placed on the ballot during the past 18 months.

"Rising enrollment is forcing districts to expand at the same time that they are under intense pressure from taxpayers to control costs," Boose continued. "Education impact fees will help taxpayers, their schools and their communities manage growth."

"Impact fees can help municipalities keep down property taxes for existing homeowners," said Dressel. "It makes sense to ask that developers bear some portion of the costs of development. These costs have increased, and the current law does not reflect the true extent of the infrastructure improvements prompted by development."

Members of the New Jersey Coalition for Educational Impact Fees include the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the Garden State Coalition of Schools, the Hopewell Valley Community for Tax Relief, the New Jersey Education Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, and the New Jersey Principals & Supervisors Association.

Plainfield City council faces desperate times

By Tony Busby

Everyone knows that these are desperate times for the City of Plainfield, but at the most recent City Council meeting, the Council took the meaning to a new level.

It appears that the city is fishing in any economic pond that they can, in order to catch surplus finances. After reviewing all unfinished business of the previous week, the Council began to scrutinize ways to generate revenue for the city.

Councilman Adrian Mapp made several proposals to the City Council and the Administration. His first suggestion centered around birth certificates for non-city residents. For these $.900 new children born per year in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center; he wants to increase the fee from $5 to $25, but keep the rate at $5 for Plainfield residents. He says that if his proposal is enacted, the city will collect $97,500. This will be an increase to the city of $78,000. While the increase does seem significant, other Councilmen felt that the rate may be a little excessive.

Both Councilman Joseph Montgomery and Councilman Robert Ferraro both had dissenting views. Councilman Montgomery stated that he had checked the fees of surrounding areas, and he could only find a dollar or two difference in prices. While Councilman Ferraro adamantly questioned the fairness of such actions.

Still City Council President Dunn defended the proposal. According to the Council President, Brooklyn increased its rate from $2 in 1938 to $25 today. While this may be true, it took Brooklyn 60 years to make there increase.

Councilman Mapp then proposed an increase on entertainment permits. He wants to increase the fee from its current $10 cost to $75, for profit-generating groups who organize parties or shows. Several of the Council members thought that this increase would yield only marginal revenue for the city. Yet, the issue will be voted on at the next City Council regular meetings.

The Council also discussed the issue of foreclosures. Fourth Ward Councilman Harold Mitchell, blasted the idea of cutting a deal with anyone trying to avoid paying taxes. He says that, "the city would be setting a precedent," and that he can not support helping anyone not trying to help the city of Plainfield.

No respect for political debt

By Tony Busby

In front of a packed audience, Plainfield's City Council tried to explain their budgetary decisions. Yet, due to emotional responses from city residents and Council members, the task was anything but smooth.

The main point of contention centered around, the $1.8 million taken from the city's Redevelopment tuna for tax relief, and another $1.4 million used to cover MUA debts. According to Council President Malcolm Dunn, "the Council had to use these funds or risk raising municipal taxes by 30 percent." Council President Dunn also stated that, "$250,000 of the $1.3 million borrowed by the PUMA, has already been collected."

Even though the Council President made this claim, Councilman Robert Ferraro demanded that he produce documentation. According to Councilman Ferraro, "the city has no intention of paying the money back." This statement ignited the crowd to the point that police officers were called in to monitor the rest of the secession.

Plainfield resident Phyliss Mason then reminded the Council, why the fund was created. She says, "The money was put into the fund, so that it would only be used for economic development." Her sentiments were echoed by several other residents throughout the entire evening.

At this point in the tense meeting, residents verbally attacked Council members and even demanded the removal of certain Council members. This outbreak led to adamant responses from certain Council members.

Councilman Harold Mitchell called for a more stringent repayment schedule. Councilman Mitchell says," only supported the PUMA, because of strong lobbying by my colleagues, and I am going to see that the money is repaid." Councilwomen Elizabeth Urquhart also pledged her support for the repayment of the PUMA loan. She stated that? "I personally helped to get the agency started and I'm going to make sure the money is repaid."

While this appeared to settle the rumbling audience down, the political flames reignited once again when Councilman Adrian Mapp said, "I don't think we need another city ordinance to collect the loan." This resulted in grumbling in every corner of the room.

Finally Council President Dunn, gave the audience an explanation as to why the Council made its choices He tried to blame the previous administration for not raising taxes. He says that, "if Mayor Mark Fury would have raised taxes over the past four years, we wouldn't be in this situation." While this may of been the case, several angry residents reminded Council President Dunn, that he voted for no tax increases over those same four years.

It appears that the final chapter of this saga will not close until the PUMA collects more tax bills. Finance Director Thomas Morrison says, "the administration should have a surplus this year, which barring any unforeseen tragedy, will go towards paying down the PUMA debt." Still the audience remained critical, volatile and cynical the entire night.

State bar officials call for repeal of verbal threshold

TRENTON—New Jersey State Bar Association officials called for the repeal of the verbal threshold today, saying the measure, which was initiated by the auto insurance industry as a means of cutting rates, has only amounted to a diminution of consumers' rights with no significant cost savings.

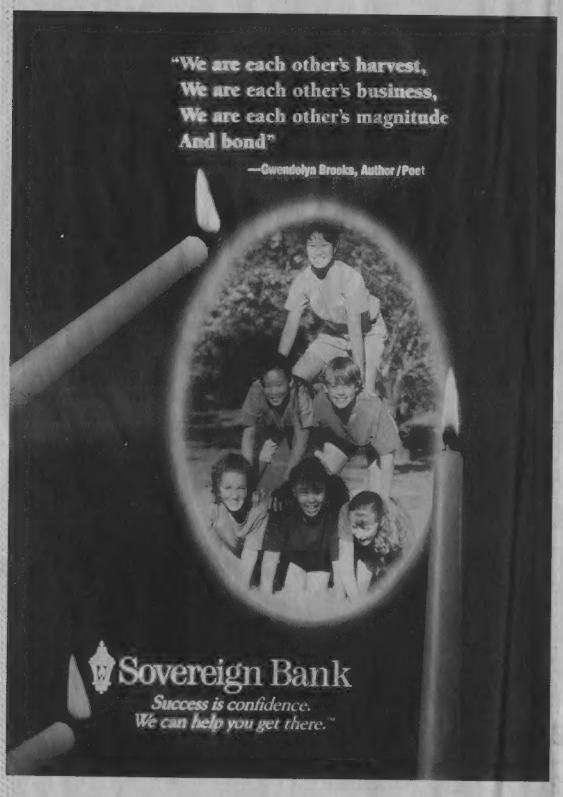
In testimony before the Joint Committee on Auto Insurance Reform, NJSBA Treasurer Daniel M. Waldman and Automobile Reparations Committee Co-Chair Gerald H. Baker advised that despite the effectiveness of the verbal threshold in limiting lawsuits and growing profits within the insurance industry, New Jerseyans continue to pay the highest auto insurance rates in the nation.

It is fundamentally unfair to ask accident victims to give up their legal right to hold a negligent driver responsible in exchange for a premium reduction

"It is fundamentally unfair to ask accident victims to give up their legal right to hold a negligent driver accountable in exchange for a premium reduction," Waldman said. "Consumers deserve much more than vague promises that rates will stabilize, decline or trail inflation when they are being asked to sacrifice something as serious as their right to sue."

Waldman described assertions of an auto litigation problem in New Jersey as "unfounded." Pointing to statistics from the Administrative Office of the Courts, Waldman noted that civil and automobile negligence case filings have declined nearly 26 percent since 1991. Waldman also observed that about two-thirds of all verbal threshold cases are dismissed and many more cases are never filed because they are rejected by attorneys before a suit is ever initiated.

"So while the threshold has been effective at reducing personal injury cases, consumers have yet to see any relief escalating premiums," Waldman said. Waldman also spoke out against any further tightening of the verbal threshold. "It would be extremely unfair to further limit the rights of people who are suffering from serious injuries, especially when the verbal threshold has proven to be ineffective as a cost-savings measure," Waldman said. "We've made that mistake once. There is no need to make it again."



Feel right at home with The Best.

Guaranteed rate • No lock-in fees • No points
Borrow to $227,150 with as little as 5% down

10/1 ARM 30 Year Term
Rate 7.000%
APR 7.240%
Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.65
Converts to 1-year ARM in 10 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually.

5/1 ARM 30 Year Term
Rate 6.750%
APR 7.330%
Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.49
Converts to 1-Year ARM in 5 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually.

3/1 ARM 30 Year Term
Rate 6.375%
APR 7.380%
Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.24
Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually

Rates and APR (Annual Percentage Rate) as of 2/6/98 are for one- to four-family owner-occupied homes and are subject to change without notice. A 20% down payment is required on loans to $500,000; for loans over $500,000, a 25% down payment is required; maximum loan amount, $1,000,000. Down payments of less than 20% will be accepted with private mortgage insurance on loans to a maximum of $227,150. P & I represents principal and interest payments on the loan.

Other mortgage loans for purchase or refinance also available.
For an application, visit the Investors' branch nearest you or call:

1-800-252-8119

Borrow from the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 249 Millburn Avenue, Millburn

CHATHAM: 169 Main Street*
CLARK: 56 Westfield Avenue* Bradlees Shopping Center*
COLTS NECK: Highway 34, P.O. Box 127
DEAL: 88 Norwood Avenue, P.O. Box 227
EAST ORANGE: 27 Prospect Street
EDISON: 1655-65 Oak Tree Road*
FREEHOLD: Highway 9 and Adelphia Road*
HILLSIDE: 1128 Liberty Avenue*
IRVINGTON: 34 Union Avenue; 1331 Springfield Avenue; 1066 Stuyvesant Avenue
LIVINGSTON: 495 South Livingston Avenue*; 571 East Northfield Road*
LONG BRANCH: 150 Broadway
MADISON: 18 Waverly Place*
MILLBURN: 243 Millburn Avenue*
NAVESINK: Highway 36 and Valley Drive*
PLAINFIELD: 130 Watchung Avenue*
SCOTCH PLAINS: 437 Park Avenue*
SPRINGFIELD: 173 Mountain Avenue; Mountain and Morris Avenues*
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: Highway 71 and Warren Avenue
TOMS RIVER: 874 Fischer Blvd., Bay Plaza* (Shop Rite Center)
UNION: 977-979 Stuyvesant Avenue; Rosel Shopping Center, Route 22*

*Investors' 24-Hour ATM Location

Deposits FDIC insured to $100,000